FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 DECEMBER 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian aircraft raided Iraqi military targets in 'Aqrah district, Al-Kumayt, and Halfayah 15 December, Iran announced in a Joint Staff Communique reported by IRNA. However, an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA said the raids were unsuccessful. Iraqi communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio detailed further raids by the Iraqi Air Force over the weekend, including 14 December attacks on the power station at Reza Dam and the oil pumping station at Ramhormoz. Iraqi planes also hit two more maritime targets off the Iranian coast, raided Khark Island, and struck at Iranian military concentrations, according to the communiques. As for the recent Iraqi air attacks on the Iranian border town of Hovayzeh, an Iraqi spokesman told INA that Hovayzeh is not a residential or civilian target as it has become an Iranian field command headquarters and a springboard for Iranian attacks in the Iraqi marshlands.

In an indication of Iranian intentions, Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed in a Friday sermon broadcast by the radio that Iran's "patience and self-restraint will not be permanent." However, in a press interview cited by INA, the commander of Iraq's IV Army Corps warned Iran that Iraq has drawn up plans to crush any attack and "wipe out the enemy with an intense, destructive strike." He contended that most of the Iranian troops mobilized for an offensive are "young schoolchildren."

In a diplomatic development, Voice of the Masses announced Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's departure for the Soviet Union 16 December on a "cordial working visit."

Israel

Foreign Policy and Internal Differences — Israel must make a decision on relations with Egypt, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres stressed in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio, adding that the rotation agreement with the Likud "is not the main thing," though the Alignment "will honor all agreements." Peres revealed that Egypt and Israel have already agreed that the side which does not gain sovereignty over Tabah should enjoy free passage and the right to jointly manage the area, the radio noted. He also said the Palestinian autonomy issue "has died" and there is no agreement for the continuation of discussion on this matter. The radio subsequently broadcast Peres' warning that the present time may be "the last opportunity to solve the Palestinian problem in a suitable way" and that the Palestinians are wasting time and are "too busy with ploys."

However, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir sharply criticized Peres' remarks on the end of the autonomy talks during a speech broadcast by Jerusalem radio. Peres had "no authority or right" to make his "serious and unilateral" declaration that the autonomy talks have been shelved, Shamir asserted, adding that Peres should retract his remark as a "slip of the tongue and a mistake."

Comment on U.S. Relations — Israeli officials viewed the 12 December raid by U.S. Customs on a company exporting defense equipment to Israel as part of a U.S. Government "harassment campaign" against Israel, *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported. In a related report, *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* contended that "certain U.S. circles" in the Pentagon and the Justice Department are attempting to "sabotage" the tight cooperation between the United States and Israel. Nevertheless, Israeli political circles cited by *HA'ARETZ* maintained that the "interruption" in U.S.-Israeli intelligence cooperation is only temporary.

Israeli Concern Over Syrian SAM Deployment

Syria's recent deployment of SAM-2's in the Al-Zabadani mountain ridge close to the Lebanese border impairs Israel's ability to gather information about terrorist targets in the Al-Biqa' Valley and to strike at them, Jerusalem radio reported 15 December. The Israeli chief of staff likewise stated in remarks broadcast by IDF radio that the stationing of such missiles near the border has a "disruptive effect and significantly impairs" the Israeli Air Force's freedom of flight over Lebanon. Prime Minister Peres told Jerusalem radio that Israel will "seriously" examine Syria's new SAM deployment, but he stressed that Israel does not want any military confrontation or escalation.

As for Syria's naval power, Damascus radio noted that "several new naval units" supplied by the Soviet Union were incorporated into the Syrian Navy during a 14 December ceremony attended by the Armed Forces chief of staff and the Soviet ambassador to Damascus.

PLO Concern Over Israeli Intentions

The PLO leadership has placed its forces in the YAR and Sudan on maximum alert after receiving information about "suspicious" Israeli air activity, PLO official Mahmud 'Abbas disclosed in remarks reported by WAKH. He also claimed that U.S. aircraft recently "intercepted" PDRY planes over the Red Sea in an act of "clear provocation."

The PLO official's expressed concern over a possible Israeli strike at PLO bases in Sanaa and Khartoum followed Radio Monte Carlo's disclosure, citing a Palestinian source in Tunis, that the PLO has begun redeploying personnel from Tunis to several other Arab capitals including Khartoum and Sanaa in order to maintain a state of alert in preparation for an escalation of military operations in the Israeli-occupied territories. The PLO leadership will remain in Tunis, the source said, but the military command is now in the YAR.

Libya: Reported Acquisition of SAM-5's

London's *THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH* reported that the Soviet Union is supplying Libya with over 100 SAM-5's, which will be installed in bases outside Tripoli and Benghazi and near the Egyptian border. The USSR is sending 2,000 advisers to install the system and teams of Soviet instructors are expected to train Libyan crews to operate the missiles, according to the newspaper, which cited "diplomatic reports from Cairo and Libya."

Iranian Foreign Relations

Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati told Tehran's *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI* that Iran will "reconsider its relations" with the countries that voted against Iran in approving the UN resolution on alleged Iranian human rights violations, IRNA revealed. As for relations with Syria, Damascus radio noted that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received visiting Guidance Minister Mohammad Khatami 15 December, adding that Khatami conveyed a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i. The Al-Shariqah paper *AL-KHALIJ* cited reports that the Syrian prime minister's recent visit to Iran helped solve many outstanding problems between the two countries and induced Iran to end its opposition to the Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement and to Syria's policy in Lebanon.

Lebanon

Voice of Lebanon radio claimed that Syrian troops surrounded Hizballah forces in Al-Biqa' and circulated a "memorandum" calling for the arrest of the area's Hizballah leader after he failed to stop at a Syrian Army checkpoint. Islamic Unification Movement leader Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, who is visiting Tehran, praised Iran's efforts to end the recent internal clashes in Tripoli, according to Tehran radio.

Further Claims on Plane Crash

The "Organization for the Liberation of Egypt" claimed responsibility for the 12 December crash of an American plane in Canada, AFP reported from Paris.

Sudan

Commenting on the reported emergence of the Islamic Jihad Organization in Sudan, Chairman of the Transitional Military Council Siwar al-Dhahab condemned the use of force to eliminate political opponents and warned that he will not allow the people's choice of democracy to be subverted. In remarks at a press conference reported by SUNA, the Sudanese leader also asserted that rebel leader John Garang has ignored calls for an end to the fighting, citing the Kurmuk incidents as an example of the rebels' expansion of operations into "northern regions."

KUNA reported that "over one thousand" Ethiopian Jews entered Sudan 8-14 December in what "may be feared" is another attempt to airlift Falashas to Israel. Citing informed sources, the agency revealed that the Falashas are under "strict control" in refugee camps.

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isation's goals and not change them. "The government will act as the state while the PLO will act as the party," one official explained.

Yet, in the Algerian experience, which the PLO always cites as an example, the leaders of the provisional government were not members of the National Liberation Front and were acceptable to the French while some publicly disputed the front's goals.

The difference, as Palestinian students of the Algerian revolution pointed out, is that the front announced the formation of the provisional government only when the French were ready to negotiate a withdrawal of French troops from Algeria, and agreed to grant independence to Algeria.

It is worthwhile noting that the idea of forming a Palestinian government-in-exile was originally a Palestinian one and a Palestinian government was actually formed in 1948. The "All of Palestine" government was formed in Gaza on Sept. 23 1948 and was headed by Ahmad Hilmi 'Abd al-Baqi. The government faced strong opposition from some Arab countries and was forced to move its headquarters from Gaza to Cairo where King Faruq severely restricted its movement and consequently it steadily lost its authority and influence and faded into oblivion.

'Arafat Outlines Syrian Role in 'Achille Lauro' Affair

AU141424 Paris AFP in English 1413 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Rome, Dec 14 (AFP) — The hijacking of the *Achille Lauro* Italian cruise liner was intended to distract world attention away from the Israeli bombing of the PLO headquarters in Tunis, Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said in an interview published today.

The hijacking came only a week after the Israeli raid October 1 on the PLO headquarters, which killed an estimated 60 people.

Mr. 'Arafat, who said he had proof of Syria's involvement, told the *CORRIERE DELLA SERA* that he was "mad with rage" when he heard that four Palestinians had hijacked the Italian liner.

He said the hijacking was manifestly intended to eclipse the "shock felt around the world" after the Tunis raid and also to discredit the image of the PLO in Europe.

His aides had immediately noticed "odd things" about the hijacking. "The hijackers took the ship towards Syria and refused to respond to appeals from the Egyptian Government or us," he said.

He acknowledged that Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas], leader of the splinter PLO group Palestine Liberation Front, who is accused by the United States and Italy of masterminding the hijacking, did know the four hijackers.

But he said the real point was that the Arab arrested at Genoa before the ship left, Muhammed Issa 'Abbas, a relative of Abu al-'Abbas, is a Syrian national, and Ahmad Assad, the first hijacker to cooperate with the Italian magistrates, holds a Syrian passport.

PLO Chairman Sends Message to Gorbachev

JN151812 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1609 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent a special message to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev dealing with the latest developments in the Middle East. Abu 'Ammar gave the message to Comrade Vladimir Chernavin when he received him at the PLO headquarters in Tunis. Discussions during this meeting dealt with the strong bilateral relations between the PLO and the friendly USSR, the current situation in the Arab region, and the latest developments in the Palestine question.

'Arafat Receives Letter From Poland's Jaruzelski

JN141858 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received a message from Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski on the latest developments in the Palestine question and the current conditions of our people inside the occupied homeland. The Polish ambassador to Tunisia conveyed the message when Brother Abu 'Ammar received him in Tunis yesterday. During the meeting the Polish ambassador reiterated his country's support for the PLO and the Palestinian people's just cause.

Fatah Revolutionary Council Meets in Tunis

JN141805 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] The Fatah Revolutionary Council began its meetings in Tunis this evening in the presence of brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], a number of Fatah Central Committee members, as well as with the participation of all Revolutionary Council members.

The Fatah Revolutionary Council will discuss the political situation on Palestinian, Arab, and international levels; the latest developments in the Palestinian question; the situation in the occupied territory; and the situation of Palestinians in the Lebaense arena. The Revolutionary Council will also discuss a number of organizational and administrative issues, as well as movement affairs.

PLO Radio Reports Israeli Ban on Delegation Visit

JN151827 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1609 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] The Zionist occupation authorities have turned down the request of three Palestinian figures from the occupied West Bank and Gaza to go to Jordan to meet with brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. Reports said that the three figures are: Hanna Sanyurah, chief editor of the newspaper *AL-FAJR* in occupied Jerusalem; Mustafa al-Natshah, acting mayor of Hebron; and Rashad al-Shawwa, mayor of Gaza who was deposed by the Zionist occupation authorities.

PLO's Milhim Denies Disagreement With Jordan

PM131120 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 12 Dec 85 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Milhim to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*: No PLO-Jordanian Disagreement and No Syrian-Palestinian Reconciliation Efforts"]

[Text] Amman — PLO Executive Committee Member Muhammad Milhim has welcomed the Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement, expressing the hope that it will be in the interest of the Palestinian cause and the Arab nation because Arab solidarity is the most effective means against Israeli aggression.

In a statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, Milhim denied that efforts are currently being made to bring about a Syrian-Palestinian dialogue. He also denied disagreement between the Jordanian Government and the PLO. The state of coordination and understanding between the two sides is fine, he added.

Commenting on what is being said here and there about proposed settlements and recognition of UN Security Council Resolution 242, Milhim said that the PLO will never recognize Israel under any circumstances, not even if it pulls its borders back to Haifa and Jaffa [Yafo]. He described UN Security Council Resolution 242 as a check drawn on an account with no funds in it, a check that cannot be cashed because the United States and Israel do not recognize it and consider the occupied Arab territories to be liberated Israeli territorities. All UN resolutions, he said, are useless because they are not backed up by force, which the United States and Israel understand.

Commenting on the U.S. secretary of state's recent statement in which he said that the "PLO has disqualified itself from any role in the peace process," Milhim said: I do not expect Shultz to say anything but that. If he really wants the PLO to play what he would consider a more positive role, he and the United States should pass a resolution in Congress acknowledging that Security Council Resolution 242 covers all the Arab territories occupied in 1967.

Meanwhile, Fatah Central Committee Member Salah Khalaf — Abu Iyad — is due in Kuwait this evening on a surprise visit that will last several days during which he will meet with Acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir and other senior officials.

According to informed Palestinian sources in Kuwait, other Palestinian officials might also visit Kuwait within the next 2 weeks to brief the Kuwaiti leaders on the latest developments in the Palestinian arena and the resolutions adopted by the PLO Executive Committee during its Baghdad meeting, the contacts with Jordan, and coordination of attitudes toward international plans for the settlement of the region's conflict as well as the question of holding an international conference on the Middle East.

Palestinian sources had earlier spoken of the beginning of a stage of Palestinian-Syrian rapprochement through Algerian-Jordanian mediation.

Fatah's Al-Natshah: 1986 Year of Armed Struggle

PM131120 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 12 Dec 85 p 1

[Report by Hasin al-Bunyan: "Al-Natshah Tells *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*: No Differences Within the Palestinian Leadership; 1986 Will be Year of Armed Struggle"]

[Text] Riyadh — Rafiq Shakir al-Natshah [Abu Shakir], Fatah Central Committee member and representative in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has declared that 1986 will be the year of armed struggle now that it has been confirmed that it is impossible to restore Palestinian rights by peaceful means.

In a statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, Abu Shakir said that 1985 has confirmed for all those who were living under the illusion that Palestinian rights could be fulfilled by peaceful means that this is out of the question because of U.S. intransigence and Israel's interest in occupying more land and its unwillingness to give up the occupied territories. He added that the Palestinian leadership and people have no option left other than concentration on armed struggle.

The Palestinian people, Al-Natshah said, have proved that they are capable of engaging in all kinds of struggle and demonstrated through steadfastness that they are ready to make more sacrifices for the liberation of the land and the protection of sanctities. He added: We will not give up political work and moves, but our efforts in 1986 will be concentrated on armed struggle as the only remaining way of achieving our objectives.

On PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's absence from the PLO headquarters in Tunisia for 2 months and rumors about the transfer of PLO headquarters, Abu Shakir emphasized that the delay in 'Arafat's return to his headquarters in Tunisia is a result of his engagements in more than one other country. He noted that during that period 'Arafat did appear at his headquarters in Baghdad, Amman, and Sanaa.

Commenting on reports that there were differences within the PLO leadership during its recent Baghdad meetings, Al-Natshah said: I emphasize that there were no differences during the Palestinian leadership's meetings in Baghdad. There is consensus on rejection of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 because they do not fulfill our legitimate rights especially our right to self-determination in the occupied territory.

He also said that there is unanimous insistence on the international conference formula for discussion of the Palestinian question in the presence of the Security Council members, particularly the Soviet Union. He added that there is a consensus that the Palestinian people should be represented at such an international conference, if held, by the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and that discussion of the Palestinian question should be based on recognition of the Palestinian people's rights to self-determination and to their own independent state on their land.

In conclusion, he said that there were no differences in Baghdad regarding these fixed principles which were approved by all the PNC sessions, which commit the Palestinian leadership and to which the Palestinian leadership is committed.

Khalil al-Wazir Meets PRC Foreign Minister

JN151815 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1609 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, met in Amman today with PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian. Talks during this meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Middle East and the situation in the Arab region.

PLO Redeploys Forces to 'Several Arab Capitals'

JN131839 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] It has been learned from a Palestinian source in Tunis that the PLO has decided to redeploy a large number of its members working in its institutions and centers to several Arab capitals, particularly to Baghdad, Amman, Algiers, Khartoum, and Sanaa. The Palestinian source said that the first batch of those who work at the PLO headquarters had effectively left Tunis with their families and had taken up residence in Baghdad 3 weeks ago, while another group has left Tunis for Amman, benefiting from the atmosphere of solidarity created by the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement signed on 11 February 1985.

The Palestinian source added that the PLO leadership will remain in Tunis. However, a large number of those who were working in the PLO's political departments had left Amman [as heard] for other Arab capitals. As for the PLO military command, it is now in the YAR.

Well-informed Palestinian sources explained that the purpose of this redeployment to several Arab capitals is to maintain these elements in a state of alert in preparation for the escalation of military operations in the occupied territories. This redeployment operation is also part of a more comprehensive program of the reorganization of institutions and bodies belonging to the PLO, whether those working in political, information, and social fields or in the military forces, which are duty-bound to pursue and develop combat training and to remain in a state of alert and mobilization.

'Suspicious' Israeli Flights Prompt PLO Alert

GF150850 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0825 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 Dec (WAKH) — According to press reports here today, Palestinian forces in the YAR and Sudan have been placed on a state of maximum alert following reports received by the Palestinian leadership over the past few days about suspicious flights by certain aircraft.

Citing Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, PLO Executive Committee and Fatah Central Committee member, *AL-ITTIHAD* says that the PLO has identified the aircraft as Israeli and has taken the necessary measures to prevent an Israeli strike at PLO bases in Sanaa and Khartoum.

In his statement published in *AL-ITTIHAD*, Abu Mazin affirmed that U.S. aircraft have in fact intercepted PDRY military aircraft over the Red Sea over the past few days in an act of clear provocation.

Israel Reportedly Drops Condition on Peace Conference

GF141604 Manama WAKH in English 1540 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Dec 14 (WAKH) — An informed French source was quoted today by the UAE daily *AL-ITTIHAD* as saying an international peace conference on the Middle East was likely by the end of next February, if existing obstacles have been removed.

The source, an official who accompanied French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas during his recent visit to Israel, said the Jewish state was not holding to its previous position calling for the restoration of Soviet diplomatic relations with Tel Aviv as a condition for Soviet participation in the international peace conference.

The source said the conference which would be attended by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council will be preceded by meetings on the sidelines by the concerned parties.

Arab News Agencies Federation Ends Meetings

LD121701 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1037 GMT 12 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, 12 December (KUNA) — The General Assembly of the Federation of Arab News Agencies (FANA) today ended its 2 days ofmeetings under the chairmanship of Birjis Humud al-Birjis and in the presence of directors and representatives of 13 Arab news agencies.

In their morning session, they considered the request made by the director general of the Sudanese News Agency (SUNA), Dr al-Tayyib Haj Atiyah, for his agency to resume its activities within FANA. SUNA's membership had been suspended due to its failure to pay its subscriptions arrears for 1976 to 1978.

The conferees lauded SUNA's role in the founding of FANA and reviewed the political changes that followed the toppling of the former regime and the hard economic conditions now being experienced by Sudan.

The conferees agreed that SUNA could resume its activities provided it pays by installments the arrears accruing for the period prior to its suspension.

The FANA General Assembly reviewed at length the question of the establishment of a central Arab news agency, which was referred to the General Assembly by the Arab information ministers for its views.

The conferees approved the idea as yet another aspect of Arab unity work but expressed numerous reasons about the difficulty of implementing this idea due to several political and technical considerations and the current Arab situation.

Some members expressed the belief that this would conflict with the activities of the Arab News Agencies Federation, which is actually implementing this idea in a different manner through its pools of news that are beamed to Europe through KUNA to Vienna, to Latin America through the Moroccan news agency, to Africa through the Tunisian news agency, and to Asia through the QATARI NEWS AGENCY.

The conferees affirmed the need to keep the idea alive and to increase coordination among the Arab news agencies inside and outside the Arab homeland, and to improve the news services and to cooperate in improving the news features and illustrated press inquiries. Some of the conferees proposed referring the idea of a pan-Arab news agency to the press sector to implement it.

It was finally decided to write to the Arab League stating that the current Arab situation cannot ensure the required success for such an agency and that it would be better to postpone the adoption of any decision in this respect at present.

It was agreed to continue coordination among the Arab news agencies and to ask the information ministers to increase their material and moral support for the federation to enable it to perform its task in the best possible manner in the service of Arab causes.

BAHRAIN

Amir Delivers National Day Speech 16 Dec

GF160842 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0610 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text of speech delivered by Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah on Bahrain's 14th National Day anniversary]

[Text] Manama, 16 Dec (WAKH) — O noble citizens, with God's help we celebrate today our glorious National Day. On this day we arrive at a new stage and look back to the achivements of the past years registered in the book of time. This book includes the path of our blessed procession which brings about optimism for future aspirations — through a comprehensive plan in which the children of this country sincerely participate in the society of cohesion and brotherhood — so that the aspirations become facts and achievements.

Thanks be to God for his support for us in the framework of the one-family society. This support triggered the emergence of the energies of the disdainful children of our homeland. These energies were directed toward the sincere construction of their free and national will, which stemmed from our heritage and is designed to maintain Bahrain's prosperity.

This is a great anniversary because our celebrations of the glorious National Day accompanies the approaching day of the opening of the Bahrain-Saudi causeway. This represents a pioneer achievement between two fraternal peoples. This is a civilization of progress which attains good for the Gulf and for the Arab nation and represents the cohesion among the peoples of the region — such a cohesion whose foundation of love was laid by the forefathers and invested by the grandchildren through cordiality and sincerity in action.

The feelings are high as we also experience the atmosphere of the GCC summit, which gives a new dimension to the integral good procession among our countries and represents the embodiment of the great aspirations that preoccupy the Gulf children — through the free will that deals with the developments of the new stage, preserves the vitality of the Gulf will, props up the national level and the Arab capability, and cements solidarity.

We bitterly lived through the bloody events of the Iraq-Iran war. From the aspect of neighborhood, Islamic brotherhood, and the keenness to preserve the region, we renew our call for the termination of this wasting of the energies by two neighborly Muslim countries and for ensuring the strategic interests in the region. We hope that efforts from within the framework of the GCC and the endeavors of the sides [words indistinct] will resort to peace.

O noble people, our road to glory and vigor can be attained through our Arab nation by taking part in its aspirations and issues and feeling its pains. We also have to make endeavors alongside our brothers to attain Arab solidarity to provide effective Arab coverage for moves toward the Middle East issue in the direction of achieving a just settlement to the Palestinian issue — such a settlement that recoups the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to establish their own state on their territory — so that our joint efforts will expand toward construction and progress in our Arab homeland.

We also have a duty toward our Islamic homeland to protect it, boost it, and support its issues through the will of Islam and its teachings. We resolutely extend our hand with sincere determination to friendly countries to participate with the international community — through its organizations — in making justice and peace prevail in our world and in accomplishing the joint interests of the world peoples.

Our sincere people, with God's blessing, proceed with your triumphant procession toward the future with united power, loving hearts, and confidence. The bridges of love pave the way for the future. Adhere to the spirit of solidarity and let your will react with your aspirations. "And that man will have nothing but what he strives for; and that his striving will soon be seen; then will he be rewarded for it with the fullest reward." [Koranic verse]

KUWAIT

USSR Deputy Defense Minister To Arrive 21 Dec

LD151327 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1258 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 15 Dec (KUNA) — Major General 'Abdallah Farraj al-Ghanim, chief of the General Staff of the Army and Armed Forces today said here that the Soviet Deputy Defense Minister Gen Vladimir Govorov will visit Kuwait on Saturday leading a large military delegation at the invitation of Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah. In a statement to KUNA Maj Gen al-Ghanim said that during the 5-day visit the Soviet delegation will display some sophisticated weapons which will be evaluated by a specialized Kuwait Army team to ascertain their suitability for the Kuwaiti Army's requirements. He added that the two sides will deal in the course of their talks with the means for consolidating military cooperation between the Soviet Union and Kuwait.

Official Denies Bombs Found at Minister's Home

LD161139 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Dec (KUNA) — The head of the office of Defense Minister Husayn Dhiyab today caterogrically denied a report published by a local paper today that two bombs were discovered outside the residence of Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah. Mr Dhiyab called on the local press to be accurate in the reports they publish.

On the other hand an official source at the Public Relations Section at the Interior Ministry pointed out that a citizen has reported the presence of the two bombs but these were placed between rocks along the coast at the area of Al-ra's. The source added that when discovered the two bombs were not endangering lives.

OMAN

Sultan On USSR Relations, Other Issues

GF141145 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 14 Dec 85 p 4

[Text] Four-fifths of the Sultanate of Oman's revenues come from oil. In consequence, projections of income in the forthcoming five-year plan are largely determined by estimates of oil output and price. In an interview with *MEED*'s [*Middle East Economic Digest*] Robin Allen on 7 December, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id outlined government projections for both oil price and output, and discussed possible ways of covering the budget deficit.

(The interview is being published in MEED today)

Q: The third five-year plan is to be introduced next year. The outline is understood to be in place. It is ready in details, and when exactly will it be implemented? Can you indicate overall expenditure and priorities, and the basis on which oil revenue is set?

A: The third five-year plan has to be announced at the beginning of 1986, but as I've said before, in this (current) five-year plan we've had to advance one or two things, rather than wait until the start of the third plan. The emphasis here will be on education and health, among other things; these two because they will never cease to be important and we must go on meeting the need for these. Communications such as roads, and electricity and water, are also priorities. Roads are the veins of the country, although we have made great strides in road development. There will be plans to see agriculture - and fisheries - get more attention, and industries too.

As for the revenue estimates, the greater part still comes from oil, but one-fifth of our national incomes comes from the non-oil sectors, and that is a good start. One has to take into account declining oil prices. This is expected and therefore we have to be realistic and calculate on $22-23 a barrel, and plan accordingly and then see how things go. We can increase oil production but we don't want to produce more oil than we should for various purposes of maintaining reserves. We are seeking a balance, and therefore to maintain production at 500,000 barrels a day.

Q: The 1985 budget deficit is estimated to be about RO (Omani riyals) 200 million ($579 million). Can you confirm this? Will Oman be going to the international market for another loan? If so, when, for how much, and what it will be used for?

A: Yes, there is a budget deficit - it is no secret and no shame. In a developing country one sometimes has to do things which entail spending more, and when you compare it with other countries it is a drop in the ocean.

A loan? Over the five-year period maybe. Our finance people will be looking for various ways to cover the deficit, but at the moment our plans are stretched over the five-year period, and then they will see how (the deficit) will be handled. When the plan is completed and officially signed, it will include ways to cover the deficit, and in January or maybe after that they will think how to cover it.

Q: Three sizeable projects have been mentioned which might be brought forward to help maintain the momentum of development; construction of a regional hospital in Suhar the Salalah sewerage scheme, and a dam near Qurayyat. Could you comment on these and identify other similar areas of important expenditure for the next year?

A: The dam (at Wadi Dayqah) is not an urgent matter, because it will be more a reservoir for drinking water and will not make any difference to the level of the water-table. Where we are always worried is in areas like the Batinah coast where we are concerned with building water re-charge dams. The Suhar Hospital will be looked at as a priority within the Ministry of Health's priorities. Hospitals vary within certain overall priorities, but Suhar is on the list. The Salalah sewerage scheme is only one of a whole series of sewerage problems which has to be looked at very seriously because towns are expanding. Again, it is on the list subject to overall priorities.

Q: In February 1985 the official gazette announced the dissolution of rural councils. Why was this done? Were they the only institutions in Oman directly elected by Omanis?

A: We dissolved the rural councils because we discovered they were not working properly. It is not because local councils were telling the government things it did not want to hear. The municipalities were given the job of looking at the problem and suggesting how best to deal with it.

Elections are part of the tradition of the country in so many forms in villages and towns. People even elect their own shaykhs, where people have a say within their own tribes, and if a shaykh is not a good man the tradition is they find another.

But to hear what people say is healthy. When it is not what the government wants to hear, then either they convince me or we confince them. But if I don't know what the people are happy or unhappy about, then how can I help them. But you know the State Consultative Council (a 55-member body of officials and regional representatives appointed by the government for two-year terms) is a real bridge between the government and the people.

Q: Many people seem surprised by the speed with which Oman established diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. Can you say why the decision was taken, when embassies will be opened, and how many diplomats there will be on each side?

A: For two years we had contracts with the Soviet Union. They were saying they would like to have diplomatic relations with us and we said we would consider it, our principles being non-interference in each others' affairs. So on that basis we had talks at various levels and we found that they accepted these principles. Then we decided there would be a meeting between our foreign affairs ministers on neutral ground - at the UN in New York. Also we felt it was as good a time as any, with new faces in the Kremlin, to start a new chapter. The numbers will obviously be equal at both embassies and, for the time being, there will not be a resident ambassador because this must be taken slowly.

Q: On the Soviet presence in South Yemen?

A: Our relationship with South Yemen preceded diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. We had already had exchanged relations with South Yemen and we have nothing to say on that except they have kept a good neighbourly relationship with us. We said (to the Soviet Union) the South Yemenis are your established friends and we don't interfere with their internal affairs and we do not allow other people to interfere with ours. They did so before, but not now.

Q: In your opening speech at the Arab Gulf Co-operation Council summit, it seemed you were putting Iran and Iraq on an equal footing - and not passing judgement on either side. The final communique did not seem to be so even-handed. Can you comment on this?

A: What I wanted to point out in my speech was that there was a war going on between two Muslim neighbours and I called on both of them to stop and solve their problems in a peaceful manner - stop this wastage of killing and crippling. My message was not to criticise either, but to make peace. This AGCC communique was an AGCC affair but one which had the same meaning as mine - it does not contain a criticism of either side. Oman has always said: 'We will put ourselves at the disposal of both countries if they want to use our good offices'. But I think things should be done quietly and not in the limelight of making a show of it. Better to seek where we can get through to both.

Q: In many countries graduates are coming on to the labour market with good degrees and high expectations, but with few opportunities because of the regional economic downturn. Is this a problem facing Omani graduates? Is the government concerned about a possible problem with unemployed graduates?
A: I am not worried now about the question of future unemployment of Omani graduates. In 20 years' time I don't know, but at this time, no. Our higher education is geared to technicians, scientists, doctors and engineers, and all these have places waiting for them in Oman - not arts degrees at the moment, although I respect these. But the whole policy of education is to guide students and for them to be useful when they come back. There are plenty of places and more, because we still have so many foreigners - so employment is tied up with Omanisation. I have ordered the Omanisation take place in every establishment and that every graduate must be given work which relates to his skills so that an engineer, for example, is not put to work where he cannot use his skills.

Q: On government officials' participation in private business.

A: Mistakes have been made in the past but these have now been corrected and this is now understood by everyone. Our religion does not tell us we can interfere in people's private lives, but I have said to ministers that your business must not interfere with your service to your government and your people, and if there is evidence that this is so then the minister will have no place. But we are not people who go just by rumours, and I like to have proper evidence. If business is above duty then they (the officials) will have no place.

PDRY

Chairman on Egypt's Role, Leadership Differences

GF131214 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0855 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Dec (WAKH) — 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has reiterated the need for countries overlooking the Red Sea and the Horn of Africa to hold a conference. He affirmed the importance of convening such a conference to discuss possible means of avoiding any military presence in the Red Sea and to make this sea a region of peace.

In a statement published today in the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, the PDRY leader praised the fraternal relations linking his country with the countries of the Arabian Peninsula and the Arab Gulf, foremost of which is the UAE. We are making continous efforts to enhance and expand these relations on the basis of good neighborliness, mutual cooperation, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs, he said.

The leader denied the existence of any differences within the YSP leadership. Differences in points of view are healthy and an embodiment of democracy; after the third general congress which concluded in Aden recently, the YSP became stronger and more coherent than at any time before, he said. He indicated that the formation of a new government in his country following the YSP General Congress will be determined by the requirements and developments of progress. The current government is enjoying the complete confidence of the YSP and the people, he said.

The leader affirmed that his country supports all sincere efforts to muster and rally Arab energies in service of the goals of the struggle of the Arab nation. Our country also supports efforts which aim at unifying ranks in order to continue the just struggle to liberate the occupied Arab territories, he said.

Concerning the current Arab situation, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said: The Arab nation is passing through a very complicated situation as a result of the aggressive policy of the United States. He noted that the Israeli raid against the PLO headquarters in Tunis, the strike against Iraq's nuclear reactor, and the U.S. piracy against the Egyptian civilian airliner "are all practices which can only be explained as an escalation of U.S. policy which Israel began to practice with its aggression against Lebanon in the summer of 1982." The decision to return Egypt to the Arab ranks is an Arab one, he said. He emphasized the importance of Egypt's role on the Arab arena, as Egypt is a main active force in the Arab region and on the level of confrontation with the Zionist enemy. He affirmed his country's firm stand on the Palestinian isue and its eagerness for the unity of the forces of the Palestinian revolution within the framework of the PLO on the basis of its political program and in accordance with the resolutions of its PNC meetings.

The leader said that the friendship and cooperation treaty between his country, Libya, and Ethiopia was a response to the deep vital interests of the peoples of the three countries. This treaty aims at benefitting from the natural and human resources and poetential within the countries' plans for economic and social development, he said. He asserted "that this treaty is not intended for committing aggression against anyone; we will not allow anyone to undermine the sovereignty and security of any side to the treaty."

Concerning the steps which have been made toward reunifying his country and the YAR, the leader praised the accomplishments that have been achieved in this direction on various political, economic, social, and cultural levels. He emphasized the need to continue efforts to deepen and widen cooperation and coordination between the two countries in order to achieve further and more positive steps to reunify the two parts of the Yemen through peaceful and democratic means.

'Ali Nasir Muhammad Discusses Domestic Issues

GF142016 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
13 Dec 85 p 9

[Interview with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, with unidentified correspondent in Aden — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Your Excellency, what are the most significant trends of your country's third 5-year plan, the implementation of which will begin next year, and how successful were the first and second 5-year plans?

['Ali Nasir Muhammad] The trends of the new development plan — the implementation of which will start in early 1986 — are designed to bring public production and the national revenue to higher levels; in this way during the plan period they can achieve 19.2 percent and 29.75 percent increases respectively, by increasing the standard of the production sectors, considering that they are the basis for stimulating the economy.The industrial sector will achieve an increase of 72 percent, the agricultural sector 42 percent, and the fisheries sector 27.6 percent. The allocated investments, which are about 614 million dinars, will resume to bolster the economic and social structure. The production sectors will enjoy 58 percent of those investments, while the production service sectors will enjoy 18 percent and the social service sectors 24 percent of those investments. During the plan period, we will work to bolster the standard and role of the new forms of public ownership in a way that will increase its contribution and role in the development of production and revenue. The state sector, which we are trying to make play the leading role in the process of economic development, is expected to contribute to the production at the end of the plan by about 55.3 percent, the cooperatives sector by 10.6 percent, the sundries' sector by 5.5 percent, and the private sector by 38.6 percent. The plan will create more job opportunities, where the number of toilers in the national economic fields will increase by 14 percent.

The results available so far show that the social production and national revenue have achieved tangible increases. They have achieved an increase of 3 percent and 38 percent respectively,in comparison with [the first year of the second 5-year plan] 1980. Also, there has been considerable improvement in the contributions of public ownership in the production sectors, where the share of the state sector increased to 48.6 percent, compared to 431 [as published] percent and the cooperatives sector increased to 7.3 percent compared to 5.8 percent in 1980. During the second 5-year plan, the amount of investment expenditure reached 715 million dinars. The plan created thousands of job opportunities. During this plan period , a number of economic and social installations were set up and the training and qualification of the workers and the toilers developed. The experience of implementing this plan gained expertise and many lessons, which were put into use while lying down the trends and basic indications for the years 1986-1990.

Question: Your Excellency, some sources said that you intend to issue a political decree granting amnesty to all those who left the country illegally through the end of 1984, in order to give them the opportunity to visit their homeland and return from abroad without any problem. Will this really take place?

[Muhammad] With regard to what you asked, we would like to point out that there are clear and definite instructions at our embassies and at the concerned organs inside on the importance of facilitating and helping our expatriates abroad with no exception. According to the information we have from our embassies, we feel great satisfaction for their stances toward their homeland and for the growing relation between them and our representatives in those embassies.

With regards to those who left the country illegally, there are definite instructions at the concerned sides to look into the conditions of their departure, by taking into consideration the circumstances which led to their departure, out of our firm conviction that it is the right of every Yemeni citizen to return to his homeland and contribute to its development.

Mubarak Interviewed on Ties With Libya, PLO

Defends Troops at Western Border

NC152303 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 15 Dec (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has warned that the fragmented situation in the Arab world and the Arab leaders' lack of agreement on a solution to the Palestinian problem will lead to the extinction of this cause. President Mubarak called on the Arab leaders to meet, even without Egypt, to agree on a unified solution to the Palestinian issue. He pointed out that there are Arab positions based on calculations not in the interest of the Arab issue.

This came in an interview for the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH* which Cairo newspapers will carry tomorrow, Monday.

President Mubarak stressed that Egypt had done the impossible for the Palestinian cause despite all the circumstances. He said that abrogation of the Camp David accords, as demanded by certain Arabs, means the declaration of war with Israel. The Egyptian people are against this in light of their bitter experience. He added that he found that the Arabs viewed the Camp David agreement in the same way as they did the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement to solve the Palestinian problem.

Asked about PLO recognition of Resolutions 242 and 338, President Mubarak told *AL-SIYASAH*: We have told Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] to define his stand on these two resolutions because they will form the bases for the international conference, should it be held. But, Yasir 'Arafat cannot singlehandedly unite the various factions because there are parties that are playing games with the Palestinian problem. President Mubarak stressed how important it was for the PLO to accept these two resolutions, adding that the PLO'S acceptance of Resolution 242 will open the way for an international conference.

President Mubarak reiterated that there was nothing abnormal between the Egyptian and Libyan people and that Egyptian weapons could not be used to kill Libyan citizens. He added: If Libya's man [Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi] is behind the terrorist actions, we will not hold the Libyan people responsible for the actions of a dishonorable man. He stressed that the presence of the Egyptian Armed Forces on the Libyan-Egyptian border only demonstrates military readiness. He went on to say: I do not trust this man.

The president stated: Despite all that has happened after the hijacking of the Egyptian airliner, I am still willing to receive the Libyan president in Egypt. The invitation is open; he can come any time he wants to. He added: I have no objection to meeting Al-Qadhdhafi at the border or in neutral territory if he refuses to coem to Egypt.

President Mubarak asked: Why should we refuse to receive Al-Qadhdhafi since all that we want is good-neighborliness?

Replying to a question on the Iraqi-Iranian war, President Mubarak said: There are no new moves or signs that would give grounds for hope. There is one party that is ready for peace, and that is Iraq. There is another party that rejects peace, and that is Iran, which wants to topple the Iraqi president before accepting peace. This is unacceptable.

He added that the Iraqi people support their leaders. Iraq is a (?sovereign) country and the decision belongs to the people [words indistinct] and the Iraqi people reject the Iranian condition.

The president discussed the internal situation in Egypt. He pointed out that Egypt will surmount its debt problems because the people are convinced that their country is not the only one whose economy is suffering.

President Mubarak concluded the interview by stressing that freedom of opinion is unlimited and guaranteed in Egypt. Not a single newspaper has been confiscated regardless of what they write. He said: We have gotten used to accepting what is being written. The people of Egypt elected me and I did not come here by force. The day I feel that the people do not want me to stay on, then, I will leave office.

'Happy' To Meet Al-Qadhdhafi

LD161124 Kuwait KUNA in English 0904 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 16 (KUNA) — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak affirmed his country's abidance to the Camp David Accord, noting that its cancellation would mean declaring war against Israel.

In an exclusive interview with daily *AL-SIYASAH*, published here Monday, Mubarak said "I challenge anyone in the Arab world to prove that the Egyptian people want to cancel the Camp David."

The Egyptian leader warned the Arabs against fighting among each other, because the continued inter-Arab differences will make the Arabs to "be easily exploited by others."

He said that the Arab world is more fragmented now than ever before. "We are just pawns in the hands of others because of our disputes," he pointed out.

On the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on a settlement to the Middle East conflict, the Egyptian president said "attempts being made against the agreement between Jordan and the Palestinians" are due to the inter-arab differences.

He said that if the Arabs are really interested in solving the conflict they would sit down together, but they did not want to.

On the Palestinian situation, the Egyptian leader said that many Arab countries were "playing" with the Arab position and trying to influence the situation, noting that all these countries differ in opinion.

He called on the Palestine Liberation Organization to have a unified stance before recognising the United Nations 242 and 338 Resolutions.

Mubarak said that he asked PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat to achieve this unified stance, but 'Arafat alone can not unify those influencing the Arab cause.

He stressed that the PLO acceptance of UN Resolution 242 would pave the way for an international peace conference, noting, however, that "there would still be a long way to go on the road of negotiations, which would take time."

The Egyptian leader asked the Palestinians not to "push King Husayn (of Jordan) too far," because he has his people and public opinion to consider and they did not want the situation to go unresolved." [quotation marks as received]

On the Libyan-Egyptian relations, Mubarak said that he would be happy to receive Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to solve the problems between their countries. He denied reports of a U.S.-Egyptian plan to attack Libya.

On the Iraq-Iran war, Mubarak expressed pessemism over this conflict, saying "Iraq is ready for peace but the other side (Iran) refuses."

"Iran has demanded the overthrow of President Saddam Husayn as a precondition for peace, but this is unacceptable to the Iraqi people who are attached to their leader," he said.

On his recent meeting in Oman with senior Arab Gulf officials, the Egyptian president said that the meeting reflected "the cordial and brotherly relations between us."

He said discussion with the Gulf officials covered various subjects. He did not elaborate, however.

President Speaks to NDP on Arab Issues, Democracy

NC150847 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 15 Dec (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has reaffirmed that Egypt will support the Palestinian cause until the Palestinian people obtain their legitimate rights.

President Mubarak also stressed that Egypt backs every form of Arab rapprochement and good relations among the Arab states.

He noted that Egypt will keep its head held high. Its people will never bow, and it will remain faithful to its principles and values. It will act in broad daylight, and will never resort to secret communications. He pointed to Egypt's past support for the Arab states and its current efforts on behalf of the Arab cause.

This was announced by Minister of Information Safwat al-Sharif after last night's NDP open session. President Mubarak, the prime minister, the speakers of the National Assembly and Consultative Council, the deputy prime ministers, ministers, and party and executive leaders in the governorates were present.

During the 2-hour meeting, President Mubarak reviewed the results of his recent visit to the Sultanate of Oman. He emphasized that Egypt's way is one of reason and logic. He said that Egypt is governed by law and the Constitution, and acts neither emotionally nor out of a desire for revenge. He added that Arab relations are intertwined.

President Mubarak discussed the party's method of action and popular participation. He highlighted the democratic process, noting that there is no hesitiation about it. He pointed out that freedom of the press is guaranteed in Egypt,and called on journalists to avoid any form of instigation and to raise the level of dialogue to benefit democracy. He urged that criticism be objective and calm, so that it may reflect on society's action.

President Mubarak stated that Egypt has had only a few years experience with political parties. He said that this dictates a consolidation of democratic participation in light of the multiplicity of parties if we are to serve the public and the economic plan's objectives.

During the meeting, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, spoke about the recent Tabah talks with Israel. He stressed that Egypt's position was clear on the need for international arbitration of the Tabah problem, and that Cairo is determined to solve it.

Mubarak Discusses Economy, Political Opposition

NC152159 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has affirmed that the real battle that we are facing to ease the burden on the working classes is the battle for production, which, if won, will solve several difficult problems at home. Speaking along these same lines, he explained that the government has no intention of lifting the subsidy on basic commodities.

In a statement to the newspaper *MAYU*, President Mubarak said that the public sector is a strong guarantee of Egypt's economy. He affirmed that it was important to rationalize and strengthen the public sector while continuing the process to reform and modernize it for its efficient administration. At the same time, he stressed that the private sector and investors must be encouraged.

Speaking about political opposition, President Mubarak stated that he meets every now and then with opposition leaders and independent figures to brief them and to listen to their views. This helps him to make the right decisions.

President Mubarak noted that he combines the posts of president of the Republic and chairman of the NDP because of his concern for Egypt's general interests first and foremost. This is above narrow party interests. He stressed that there is no suppression of opinion and that freedom is guaranteed to all.

'Egyptian Revolutionaries' Claim U.S. Plane Crash

NC141150 Paris AFP in English 1145 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Paris, Dec 14 (AFP) — An anonymous caller who said he was speaking for the "Egyptian Revolutionaries" organisation today claimed responsibility for Thursday's plane crash in Newfoundland, which killed all 256 people on board. The 248 passengers on board were U.S. soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division, who had been serving in a peacekeeping unit in the Sinai.

The caller read a statement in Arabic to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in Paris. He said the crash was a "warning" and that "such acts will continue until Egypt draws out [as received] of the Camp David accords."

The accords with Israel committed Egypt to a phased withdrawal from the Sinai, as well as to formal recognition of Israel.

The caller also said the operation was in response to "U.S. imperialist presence on Egyptian soil" and U.S. participation in last month's "massacre at Valletta Airport," when Egyptian commandos stormed an Egyptian plane which had been hijacked to Malta. Sixty-one people were killed.

The "Egyptian Revolutionaries" claimed an attack on an Israeli diplomat in Cairo early this year. The extremist Islamic Jihad and the Organisation for the Liberation of Egypt have also both claimed responsibility for Thursday's crash, but U.S. officials in Washington have so far ruled out sabotage.

Foreign Minister Hails UN Resolution on Mideast

NC141355 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has declared that the UN General Assembly resolution calling for an international conference to achieve a comprehensive Middle East peace is in harmony with the Egyptian position. He added that Egypt is eager to see an active peace process. If peace can be obtained through an international conference, then Egypt welcomes such a conference. This goal has been the motive behind Egypt's efforts to give momentum to the peace process.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid added that this subject will be discussed during the meeting of foreign ministers from the Islamic states, which is scheduled to open in Morocco on 6 January. Egypt will get in touch with the foreign ministers taking part in this Islamic conference, and will examine this issue with them.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid has also met with the Egyptian delegation to the Tabah talks led by Dr 'Abd al-Halim Badawi. The outcome of the recent round of discussions was examined at the meeting. Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that the Foreign Ministry is currently studying the report on the negotiations in order to define Egypt's position regarding the points raised during the talks.

USSR Ambassador Cited on Mideast Conference

NC152324 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 15 Dec (MENA) — The Soviet ambassador in Cairo, Aleksandr Belonogov, has affirmed his country's support for the convening of an international conference to settle the Middle East problem. He expressed his pleasure that the idea of a conference is daily gaining more widespread recognition.

The Soviet ambassador rejected any preconditions for the Soviet Union's participation in the international conference, noting in this respect that Israel was linking Soviet participation to the emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

In an exclusive interview with the weekly magazine *MAYU* to be published tomorrow, Monday, Ambassador Belonogov explained his country's stand toward the PLO. He said that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and an equal partner in the international conference on the Middle East. He explained that the conflict cannot be settled without the PLO. He expressed his hope that Washington will become convinced that there is absolutely no future for its opposition to the international conference.

The Soviet ambassador touched on Egyptian-Soviet relations. He praised the pragmatic policy practiced by President Husni Mubarak and Egypt's political leadership, and expressed appreciation for this policy. He said: The satisfaction in Egyptian-Soviet relations stems from the fact that we are understanding each other better. This is a result of political dialogue at various levels between the two countries. He pointed to the firm relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union, which are successfully developing and proceeding on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Ambassador Belonogov stressed the importance of increasing joint efforts to give impetus to the political dialogue between the Soviet Union and Egypt and to find common positions on international issues, while consolidating and comprehensively strengthening the various aspects of cooperation between the two countries.

President Saddam Husayn Leaves for USSR 16 Dec

JN160811 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Leader Staff Marshal Saddam Husayn, president of the republic and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, left Baghdad for the Soviet Union today on a cordial working visit. The leader president is accompanied by a delegation consisting of Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs; and the president's secretary.

Further Coverage of PRC Delegation's Visit

Arms Sales to Iran Denied

GF131831 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1722 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Dec (WAKH) — The PRC today strongly denied making any deals to sell weapons to Iran throughout the Gulf war, now in its 6th year.

An authorized official spokesman for the PRC delegation accompanying Wu Xueqian, PRC foreign minister, during his visit to Iraq, described the reports on such deals as "totally untrue." In a statement to a WAKH correspondent in Baghdad, he said: "The talks which Iranian Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani held in Beijing this year were limited to economic cooperation."

The statements were made shortly before the departure of the PRC minister from Baghdad today at the conclusion of a 3-day visit to Iraq, which is the first stage of his tour that includes four other Arab countries: Jordan, Egypt, Syria, and the UAE.

The official spokesman described the talks held by the PRC minister with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister, and Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, as successful and as having achieved their desired aims. He said that the Iraqi and PRC delegations were in agreement following three sessions of talks. He said that now they had a more profound understanding of all issues discussed.

He announced that his country desires to play a role in the attempts to end the Gulf war as soon as possible. He said: "The PRC supports all efforts toward a peaceful solution that will restore peace to the region." He added that his country is willing to participate as much as possible in these efforts. He did not, however, give details on the type or method of participation. He said: "Ending the war is not only in the interest of the Iraqi and Iranian peoples, but in the interest of the security and peace of the region and the whole world."

The PRC official spokesman expressed his country's desire to establish diplomatic relations with the remaining GCC countries. He said: The PRC supports the independent position of these countries and the policy of self-sufficiency, and expresses its keenness to enhance the existing relations and to expand them in various spheres.

It is well known that the PRC has diplomatic relations with three Gulf countries, namely Kuwait, the Sultanate of Oman, and the UAE. The spokesman did not deny the possibility of holding a meeting between the PRC foreign minister and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat during his current tour. He said that the information available does not include a date for this meeting. The PRC official spokesman reiterated his country's support for the struggle of the Palestinian people. He said: The PRC stands alongside the just struggle of the Palestinian people in the face of Zionist expansionism and for the restoration of their usurped rights.

The visit of Wu Xueqian to Iraq is regarded as the very first such visit in many years. This visit came in response to a visit undertaken in 1983 by Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz. It is worth noting that 20,000 Chinese are currently employed in Iraq in a number of development projects in various parts of Iraq. The spheres of economic cooperation include imports of raw material and sulphur from Iraq, while PRC exports to Iraq various industrial equipment and clothes.

Meets With Trade Minister

JN131149 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1125 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Dec (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, met here today with Wu Xueqian, member of the Politburo of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, state councillor, and foreign minister. They discussed bilateral trade and economic cooperation and ways to develop this cooperation. The Chinese ambassador in Baghdad and the Iraqi ambassador in Beijing attended the meeting.

Leaves Baghdad 13 Dec

JN131530 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1520 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Dec (INA) — Wu Xueqian, member of the Politburo of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, state councillor, and foreign minister, and his accompanying delegation left Baghdad this afternoon at the end of a 3-day official visit to Iraq. During the visit, the PRC minister held talks with Iraqi officials on ways to promote relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. Talks also dealt with the situation in the region, developments in the war the Iranian regime is waging against Iraq, and international issues of mutual interest.

The PRC minister was seen off by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, ranking Foreign Ministry officials, the Iraqi ambassador in Beijing, and the PRC ambassador in Baghdad.

Italian Foreign Trade Minister Departs 13 Dec

JN131300 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Italian Foreign Trade Minister Nicola Capria and his delegation left Baghdad this morning after he led his country's side to the meetings of the Iraqi-Italian joint committee which concluded yesterday.

Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, and the Italian ambassador in Baghdad saw him off.

Communiques, Statements on Latest War Actions

14-15 Dec Communique

JN151742 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Communique No 2,053 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 15 December 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Events daily confirm that the hopes the Iranian rulers, their Zionist masters, and their companions in agentry, the so-called Arabs, pin on prolonging the war are futile. Victory is written for Iraq's great people because they defend rights, fight for their land, march along the road of progress, and take examples from the radiant Arab history and values of the age. These people will never be stopped by rancor, backwardness, and ignorance.

The following is a roundup of our units' activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. In order to further destroy the defeated enemy remnants and the equipment and installations which contribute to their war effort, Iraq's glorious eagles of the air carried out the following missions:

a. At 1750 [1450 GMT] today our valiant eagles launched a new, successful raid on Khark Island, setting it on fire.

b. At 1745 today our true eagles directed an accurate and effective strike against a large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

c. Our Air Force squadrons continued to tear up the enemy remnants and their positions and equipment in 97 raids carried out in the III and IV Army Corps sectors.

After carrying out all these missions, our valiant eagles returned to the homeland, carrying glad tidings of victory. Praised be God, the best supporter.

2. Our helicopter gunships' cavaliers carried out several attacks against enemy positions opposite the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. With their well-known courage, they scored direct hits on enemy concentrations and boats. They then returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God.

3. Our heroic formations in the operational sectors used artillery and other weapons to pound enemy positions facing them, inflicting the following confirmed losses:

a. One excavator, one infantry position, one observation post, and one machinegun emplacement destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

b. One 120mm mortar destroyed and one of its crew killed and another person killed and one 130mm gun hit in the III Army Corps sector east of Basrah.

c. One ammunition dump destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris. Fire was seen rising from it.

d. One ammunition dump destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.

e. One infantry position destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

4. Two enemy planes attempted to penetrate our international border in the northern V Army Corps sector this morning. Our air defenses intercepted them and forced them to flee without achieving their aim.

5. The vile Khomeyni regime forces shelled Al-Faw, Al-Harithah, and Mandali with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 December 1985

Iranian Air Raids Admitted

JN151320 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1305 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Dec (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has said that the Iranian air raids on Iraqi territory failed to achieve their aims. In a statement to INA today, the spokesman said that two enemy planes penetrated our international border in the northern sector of the operational theater and that our air defenses intercepted them and forced them to drop their bombs on an uninhabited area and flee without causing any human or material losses.

He added that two other enemy planes attempted to penetrate our international border in the southern sector, but failed to get deeper into Iraqi territory and returned without achieving any results.

13-14 Dec Communique

JN141755 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Communique No 2,052 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 December 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O birds of prey: Follow us to the front. With the help of God, the wisdom of its leader, the sincerity of its people, and the courage of its soldiers, Iraq will continue to be in the vanguard of the march of freedom and a pioneer on the road to progress. It will have mercy on its sons, defend its territory, and severely strike its rascal enemies. Our people will always add new victories to previous ones and will deal harsh blows to the anti-Arab, racist clique so that it will die in its own rancor and frustration. Praised be God, the best of supporters.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Events have proved that despite their repeated defeats on the battlefield by the strong men of Iraq and their failures in all walks of life, the Iranian rulers are still bent on carrying out reckless actions. They have not taken notice of their people's aspirations nor have they responded to the Iranian people's desire for peace and stability. The tyrant clique will continue to be inspired by its suspect connections and to bear grudges against great Iraq and its powerful movement for progress. In answer to the reckless, aggressive policy of this misguided clique, our heroic Air Force is daily swooping on enemy remnants and establishments which support its war efforts. In order to convince the Iranian rulers of Iraq's strength and power, our brave eagles carried out the following missions:

a. At 1330 [1030 GMT] today, our heroic Air Force launched a destructive raid on the power-generating plant at Reza Dam, destroying their targets and setting them ablaze.

b. At 1300 today, other Air Force planes attacked the oil pumping station at Ramhormoz, setting their targets on fire and leaving columns of smoke rising from them.

c. At 2330 yesterday, the brave eagles launched a successful raid on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast, scoring an accurate, effective hit.

d. Our Air Force formations continued to inflict God's just punishment on the remnants of the Khomeyniite forces, destroying their positions, equipment, and machinery in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris and the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. Our planes carried out 91 combat missions today.

After carrying out all these missions with courage and precision, our eagles returned to base, safe and triumphant in God's care. Let the tyrant Iranian rulers taste the bitter punishment of our men who deal them well-deserved, destructive blows.

Glory to you, O Iraqi eagles. We seek God's help in carrying out His wishes. He is the best helper and supporter.

2. An enemy force estimated at 25 men attempted to advance toward the positions of one of our forward units in the II Army Corp central sector, but our soldiers opened fire killing or wounding 12 of them. The others fled. In the same sector, our forces destroyed one ammunition dump and one machinegun emplacement and killed one enemy soldier.

3. In other operational sectors, our units opened artillery, mortar, and tank fire on enemy positions, gun emplacements, and troop concentrations, inflicting the following losses:

a. One gun, three vehicles laden with ammunition, another vehicle, and two ammunition dumps destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Basrah.

b. One vehicle destroyed and those occupying it either killed or wounded in the I Army Corps northern sector.

c. One infantry position destroyed and one vehicle burned in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris and another infantry position destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

4. The criminal enemy shelled the city of Al-Harithah with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 December 1985

12-13 Dec Communique

JN131748 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Communique No 2,051 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 13 December 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces' power and ability are daily increasing to wipe out the dreams of the despots, the Iranian rulers, and to impose justice and peace.

The following is a roundup of our units' activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. The only answer that the lying, corrupt, and warmongering Iranian rulers deserve is more successive blows. We will continue on this course until the end of the war. Our giant Air Force has carried out the following missions:

a. At 2245 yesterday evening, our heroic Iraqi eagles carried out a successful air raid against Khark Island. They scored accurate and effective hits on their targets, leaving them in flames.

b. At 0800 today, our heroic eagles launched a new successful raid on Khark Island. They scored direct and effective hits on their targets and left them in flames.

c. At 0100 today, our brave eagles carried out an air raid on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast, scoring an accurate and effective hit.

After carrying out all these missions, the eagles of the air returned with their planes to the homeland, safe and triumphant. Praise be to God, the best supporter.

2. The heroic helicopter gunship knights carried out daring raids on enemy positions opposite our units in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan, destroying two enemy boats and several enemy troop concentrations, after which they safely returned to base, praise be to God.

3. In accordance with successful supervision from the field, a heroic force belonging to our formations in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris made a daring raid against enemy positions opposite its positions. In a lightning and determined attack, our force destroyed two boats and three rafts and set five rafts on fire. The force safely and triumphantly returned to its positions, praise be to God. Elsewhere in the same sector, one of

our patrols captured a raft and brought it back to its positions. Another raft was destroyed in another area of the same sector. May God bless the VI Army Corps men.

4. To inflict the heaviest losses on the enemy remnants, our heroic fighters in various sectors of operation, using artillery, tank fire, mortars, and other types of weapons, dealt fierce and concentrated blows to enemy positions, inflicting several losses on the enemy. The following are the confirmed enemy losses:

a. Two enemy troops killed and five infantry positions and two ammunition dumps destroyed in the I Army Corps central sector.

b. One observation post destroyed and its occupants killed, one vehicle set on fire, and two infantry positions destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

c. One excavator destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Basrah.

5. The forces of the clique of despotism and charlatanism shelled Al-Faw and Al-Harithah with long-range artillery.

6. Escaping the terrorism of charlatan Khomeyni's regime, new groups of Iranian civilians, including schoolchildren, sought refuge with our forward units at the battlefront and were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 December 1985

'Allegations' on Hovayzeh Refuted

JN141440 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Dec (INA) — A military spokesman has refuted Iranian allegations and lies about the township of Hovayzeh, which the Iranian regime claims to be civilian, in order to raise an uproar prior to launching a new aggression against Iraqi territories.

In a statement to INA, the military spokesman said that this township lies on the battlefield and is not considered a residential or civilian area in any way, adding that it is situated on the heights of the Hovayzeh marshes and has become a headquarters for the Iranian forces' field commands and a springboard for the Iranian III and VI Army Corps.

The spokesman added that the Iranian regime's uproar is only a justification for world public opinion and the Iranian people, who are bored of war, and is aimed at launching a new aggression on Iraqi territories. He pointed out that Iran's rulers did not use only this township as a military headquarters and concentration center for launching aggression against Iraq, but also other cities, including Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] and Abadan.

The spokesman also said that although Iraq has for some time refrained from shelling residential areas in order to give the Iranian regime a chance to reconsider its position, this regime continues to shell [Iraqi] residential areas such as Basrah, Al-Qurnah, Abu al-Khasib, Al-Harithah, and Mandali.

On Rafsanjani's statements about a final attack, the spokesman said this liar previously talked about a decisive and final attack on 14 June 1984, 14 September 1984, 29 September 1984, and 29 March 1985, saying that all these attacks would be decisive and final. Nevertheless, the spokesman said, what resulted from these attacks was that Iran lost tens of thousands in a final and decisive way. The spokesman added: If Rafsanjani or anyone else wants to carry out an attack this time, then the result will not differ from preceding ones and will be more cruel and bitter. He affirmed that Iraq is stronger and more determined to annihiliate any force which Iran's rulers send to attack Iraq. He said: Those who want to push their luck will find the pyre of death waiting for them.

Corps Commander Warns Iran Against New Offensive

JN151432 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Dec (INA) — A high-ranking field commander has emphasized that the next battle with Iran will be a turning point which will bring a closer end to the war. He stressed that Iraq possesses such power that will turn the next Iranian offensive into a catastrophe for Iran and its rulers, indicating that the Iraqi reply this time will be different from previous replies.

In an interview with *AL-YARMUK* newspaper, which deals with military affairs and was published today, Staff Major General Thabit Sultan, commander of the IV Army Corps, added that the war of the past 5 years has built up an increasing desire to avenge our martyrs. He added: We will hunt a great number of them and kill them in a collective and comprehensive manner. We have drawn up an integrated plan to wipe out the enemy with an intense, destructive strike.

He further said: We are now more capable of confrontation and more determined to safeguard the land and crush any Iranian attack. This time we will fight with the wrath of the past 5 years, and this wrath is justified because we hae knocked on all the doors of honorable and peaceful solutions, but they rejected all that. We will act accordingly when dealing with any hostile Iranian operation.

He stressed that expansion and aggression are the ambition and target of the Iranian regime. This time, he added, we will put an end to all this and will thwart their aims if they imagine that they will surprise us with new methods or that they will avoid the mistakes they made by the aggression they launched in March this year by amending their plans. He pointed out that the Iraqi forces have taken everything into account and said: We will not forget anything about them and will destroy them in a fatal blow. This time we will pursue their remnants deep inside Iran and there will be no escape for any Iranian who takes part in the offensive.

Regarding the intentions of the Iranian military and political leadership, the IV Army Corps commander indicated that the Persian grudges of the present rulers of Tehran remain unchanged due to the bitterness and severity of their defeat. He added: This regime continues to cherish the ambition of invading Iraq and is still wagering on some areas of certain military significance which they want to occupy in Iraq. However, they tried their luck on dry land and mountains and obtained nothing. They wagered on one sector after another in vain, which reveals the state of confusion and successive failure of Iranian military operations.

Regarding the Iranian rulers' allegations about the huge size of their troop concentrations, the field commander said: We have precise information about the nature of Iranian concentrations, information we will not disclose. However, we can confirm that most of the mobilized Iranians are classified as third degree, vis-a-vis their abilities, training, and use of arms. Most of them are young schoolchildren whom the Iranian leaders forced to join the war by their well-known methods.

Concluding, the commander stressed that Iraq is not fighting Iran alone, making reference to the close Syrian-Libyan cooperation with the Iranian regime in addition to the firmly- established Iranian-Zionist cooperation on all levels.

Opposition Figure Quoted on Khomeyni Health

GF151210 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Dec

[Text] An Iranian opposition religious figure has stated that Khomeyni has reached the stage of near-death politically, physically, and intellectually.

In statements to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH*, Dr (?Musa) Musavi added that reports from inside Khomeyni's house prove that the people around Khomeyni used the services of the Austrian physician Lusinger to treat him several weeks ago. The doctor recommended the following: Let him die. Medications will not extend his life.

Musavi stated that Khomeyni is instructed on the issues on which he speaks by his son Ahmad; in spite of this, however, it is noticeable that the statements he recently made to his followers are incoherent because he cannot concentrate on what he is instructed. Iranian radio and television are broadcasting the contents of Khomeyni's statements instead of reporting them verbatim.

He added that the situation has made it necessary to decide the issue of who will succeed him. Had it not been for Khomeyni's physical ailment and the political setbacks inside his regime, the choice of Montazeri would have been postponed till after Khomeyni's death, he said.

Foreign Minister on Continuing Talks With Syria

JN150823 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 15 Dec 85 pp 1, 3

[By Rabab Mango, special to the *JORDAN TIMES]*

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri said Saturday that the Jordanian and Syrian positions during Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm's talks in Amman last week were not completely identical but that both sides were continuing talks to reach agreement on all issues of concern to them.

"Besides those issues that were discussed and mentioned in the joint communique, there were other political matters that were reviewed, especially the Palestinian problem, on which we cannot say our views were identical," Mr al-Masri said. "But both sides are surely working towards reaching its sister agreement on them," he added.

In an exclusive interview with the *JORDAN TIMES* and *AL-RA'Y*, Mr. al-Masri said Jordan's evaluation of the talks with Dr. Al-Kasm is very positive since there is a necessity for continuing the dialogue which is aimed at reaching agreement on all issues, including differences, between the two countries. "There is a decision by the highest levels in both countries to continue this dialogue for the purpose of serving the Arab nation," Mr. al-Masri said.

The joint communique, issued at the end of Dr. al-Kasm's visit to Jordan, reiterated the two countries' rejection of all partial and unilateral settlements with Israel and direct talks with the Jewish state. Jordan and Syria also pledged to intensify efforts to consolidate joint Arab action to achieve a just, durable and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

The joint statement expressed Jordan's and Syria's "conviction that just and comprehensive peace cannot be achieved other than through an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations... attended by all parties concerned (and) the United States, the Soviet Union and the (three other) permanent members of the U.N. Security Council."

Commenting on the call for an international conference, Mr. al-Masri said: "There is agreement by both sides on the need for holding the conference, and also who should participate in it. Jordan and Syria will continue discussions and consultations to agree on the other issues concerning this conference." Mr. al-Masri did not say what these "other issues" were, but said it is not practical to think that total solutions can be found for complicated problems in short periods of time.

"Only dialogue can solve these complicated problems which have been neglected for a long time," Mr. al-Masri said. "There simply are no magic solutions to the problems we face in the Arab world."

The foreign minister said that the West has become more receptive to the idea of an international conference, and "we have seen lately that some Western leaders have stated their belief in the necessity for holding it." "Only Israel and the U.S. stand in the way of this conference," Mr. al-Masri said.

In reply to a question on the October 14 cancellation of a planned meeting between a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffery Howe, Mr al-Masri said:

"The principle of the visit is still there, but no date has been fixed yet for the joint delegation to go to London. On the other hand, contacts are continuing for the delegation to visit The Netherlands which will chair the European Community (next month) if a visit to Britain is fixed anew."

On the Arab summit, which is scheduled to be held in Saudi Arabia reportedly next March, Mr. al-Masri said that some obstacles still stand in the way of this summit, but that Jordan and Syria are working together to prepare the way for it under "propitious circumstances."

"Syria and Iraq are still far apart in their respective positions, but Jordan is playing a leading role in clearing the Arab atmosphere and in solving differences between the two sister countries," Mr. al-Masri added.

PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian Arrives for Visit

JN131848 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian arrived in Amman today at the head of a delegation on a 4-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, he will meet with His Highness Crown Prince Hasan and Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i. He will also hold talks with the ministers of foreign affairs, planning, and industry, trade, and energy and mineral resources. He will also meet with General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Froces.

Xueqian said that his visit to Jordan is at the invitation of Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri. He expressed the hope that his visit will contribute toward promoting bilateral relations and discussing issues of mutual interest. He praised the firm relations existing between the PRC and Jordan which are developing in all fields thanks to His Majesty King Husayn and his excellency the PRC president.

Xueqian was received by the foreign minister, a number of officials, and the PRC ambassador in Amman.

Meets With Al-Rifa'i

JN141239 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian in his office this morning. During the meeting, they reviewed the developing relations between the two friendly countries and ways to bolster them in all fields. They also discussed international issues of mutual interest, particularly the Middle East issue. The guest minister stressed China's support for an international conference to bring about a lasting, comprehensive solution to the Middle East issue to be attended by all concerned parties with the participation of the five permanent UN Security Council member-states. Attending the meeting were Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, the PRC ambassador in Amman, and the delegation accompanying the guest minister.

Meets King, Crown Prince

JN141504 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon. The PRC guest conveyed to his majesty the king the PRC president's greetings, as well as the wishes of the PRC leadership and people, that the Jordanian people will achieve their national aspirations and prosperity under his majesty's wise leadership. His Highness Crown Prince Hasan had earlier received the PRC minister.

During the two meetings, they reviewed the situation in the Middle East, as well as Jordanian-PRC relations and ways to promote them in the service of the two friendly peoples. The two meetings were attended by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, the delegation accompanying the guest minister, and the PRC ambassador in Amman.

Meets Commander in Chief

JN151232 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Staff General Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, this morning received PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, who is currently visiting Jordan, in his office at the General Command. During the meeting, they discussed a number of issues of mutual interest. Attending the meeting were Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, the PRC ambassador in Amman, and members of the delegation accompanying the guest minister.

Holds Press Conference

JN152021 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xuegian today expressed his appreciation of the efforts of his majesty the king to bring about a just and peaceful settlement to the Palestine cause that could secure the restoration of the occupied Arab areas and the redemption of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He told a press conference that his visit to Jordan was extremely positive. The minister said that his meetings with his majesty the king and other Jordanian officials had contributed to fostering bilateral relations. The Chinese foreign minister added that the talks covered matters of mutual interest and that the views of both sides were identical.

Referring to the Jordanian-Palestinian accord and the recent declaration in Cairo by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, the Chinese minister said that his government believes that all these moves would help in finding a just and reasonable settlement to the Palestinian problem. He voiced China's support for convening an international conference on the Middle East, saying that such a conference would help in bringing about a political settlement, provided that the PLO should participate in such a conference. The Chinese foreign minister attacked Israel's expansionist and oppressive policies, stressing that his government would not establish any relations with Israel so long as it continues to pursue such policies.

Joint Projects Agreement Reached

JN141555 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1433 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Amman, 14 Dec (PETRA) — Ways of promoting economic, trade, and technical relations between Jordan and the PRC were discussed with PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian at the Planning Ministry today. An agreement was reached on establishing joint industrial projects in the PRC and on China's contribution to establishing projects in Jordan in the fields of roads, bridges, and public installations, in addition to marketing Jordanian phosphates in the PRC.

Further on Meetings, Agreements

JN141659 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Planning Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Nusur discussed with PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian ways to develop economic, trade, and technical relations bettween Jordan and the PRC. The planning minister reviewed the goals and projects of the forthcoming 5-year plan which Jordan is currently preparing. He also praised the remarkable progress in PRC-Jordanian relations during the past 3 years following His Majesty King Husayn's visit to the PRC in 1983.

The PRC minister stressed his country's willingness to expand bilateral cooperation, praising the Jordanian Government's policy under His Majesty King Husayn to increase and bolster this cooperation in various areas. He said that developing these relations is considered a firm PRC Government policy, pointing out that his government is currently drawing up the seventh 5-year plan which coincides with the preparation of the Jordanian 5-year plan, a fact which will allow the two countries to review projects for the next stage. The meeting was attended by the Planning Ministry secretary general, a number of senior Planning Ministry officials, the guest minister's delegation, and the PRC ambassador in Amman.

At the end of the meeting, the planning minister told PETRA-JNA that in light of this meeting and that of the Jordanian-PRC joint committee, the two sides agreed to establish joint industrial projects in the PRC and that the PRC will contribute to establishing projects in Jordan such as roads, bridges, and public installations, as well as marketing Jordanian phosphate in the PRC. He added that regarding training and exchange of expertise, a Jordanian delegation will visit the PRC to acquaint itself with the distinguished PRC experience in extracting shale oil.

U.S. Embassy Guards Said To Fire on UN Helicopter

NC140648 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] A UNIFIL spokesman in southern Lebanon has announced that a UNIFIL helicopter was hit by gunshots fired by U.S. Embassy guards in Beirut, who feared that a suicide attack was being launched against the embassy building.

The spokesman explained that a bullet missed the pilot's seat by 40 cm and that no one was hurt.

Meanwhile, U.S. Embassy officials have refused to provide any details about the incident.

Foreign Ministry Secretary General To Visit USSR

LD141522 Kuwait KUNA in English 0917 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Beirut, Dec 14 (KUNA) — The Foreign Ministry's Secretary General Fu'ad al-Turk will soon fly to Moscow for talks with Soviet officials on bilateral relations and international developments, diplomatic sources said here Saturday.

The sources said Al-Turk will discuss the renewal of a number of bilateral economic and commercial protocols, the situation in South Lebanon and efforts to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 425 calling for a complete Israeli withdrawal and deployment of international peacekeeping forces on common borders.

They said the expected trip was decided at meetings between the Soviet charge d'affaires in Beirut Yuriy Soslikov with both President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami who have hastened the visit following a decision taken by the U.S. Congress to cut 18 million dollars from American budget contributions to the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Lebanese officials are questioning the motives of the American decision which came following statements by Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin speaking of "the necessity of a UNIFIL withdrawal from south Lebanon."

Meanwhile, a Lebanese newspaper said today that Soviet security men will be brought from Moscow to guard the Soviet embassy compound in West Beirut and embassy staffers.

Daily *AL LIWA* said Soviet diplomats have told the Lebanese Foreign Ministry thta Msocow plans to undertake security responsibilities for the embassy, whch is being guarded by leftist militias since the kidnap of four Soviet diplomats in West Beirut and threats to blow up the embassy late last September.

According to the paper, Moscow also wants to remove sandbag barricades set ringing the embassy since the kidnap crisis and the bombing threats by an Islamic group in protest of attacks by leftist Lebanese parties on the Islamic Tawheed movement in the northern lebanese port city of Tripoli.

The paper did not mention how many security guards will be brought in or the arms which they are to use.

Most Soviet diplomats in Lebanon were evacuated to Moscow through Damascus following the kidnap incidents and the Soviet embassy is now run by skeleton staff.

Date Not Fixed

NC161322 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] The visit to Moscow by Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk, the Foreign Ministry's secretary general, was the subject of discussion today at his meeting with Soviet Charge d'Affaires Yuriy Suslikov. Suslikov pointed out that the date of the trip has not been fixed.

On his country's position regarding the suspension of U.S. support for UNIFIL, Suslikov said: Our position is known; we oppose these things.

When asked what he meant by these things, Suslikov replied: You are familiar with the Soviet stand, which has been in force since UNIFIL's establishment.

The Soviet diplomat denied any plans to bring Soviet security men to guard the embassy building in West Beirut, and declined to comment on a question about the date of Soviet Ambassador Soldatov's return to Beirut.

Trip Not 'Before End of Year'

NC151729 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] In an intervew with Radio Free Lebanon, Fu'ad al-Turk, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, has denied media reports that he will go to Moscow tomorrow. He said that he will meet with Soviet Charge d'affaires Yuriy Suslikov tomorrow to discuss the details, but that this visit will not take place before the end of the year.

Ambassador al-Turk added that the visit is not a sudden one but has been scheduled for almost a month. It seeks to strengthen Lebanese-Soviet relations within the larger context of strengthening relations with the two superpowers. He declared that there is no connection between this visit and the recent U.S. decision regarding the financing of UNIFIL in south Lebanon. He noted that economic and cultural affairs and the Middle East situation will also be discussed. He said that an economic agreement, which has been ready for several months, might be signed during the visit. The agreement concerns the exchange of products and commodities.

Fu'ad al-Turk further said that there is a chance that the United States might go back on its decision on UNIFIL financing if the UN Security Council renews the UNIFIL mandate, which expires on 17 April, particularly after reports about differences on this issue between Congress and the U.S. Administration.

To Meet With Shevardnadze

GF141849 Doha QNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Beirut, 14 Dec (QNA) — Diplomatic sources in the Lebanese capital revealed to a QNA correspondent in Beirut that the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, Ambassador Fu'ad Al-Turk, will visit the Soviet Union, where he will meet with the chief of Middle East affairs in the CPSU Central Committee and with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

The sources stated that Al-Turk's negotiations in Moscow will deal with strengthening Soviet-Lebanese relations and coordination between the two countries regarding the situation of the UN forces operating in Southern Lebanon.

The sources refused to reveal the steps that the Foreign Ministry is studying to resist the recent U.S. decision to decrease U.S. participation in the budget of the UN forces in southern Lebanon by $18 million.

Birri To Continue Efforts To Free French Hostages

HK140612 Hong Kong AFP in English 0633 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Paris, Dec 14 (AFP) — Nabih Birri, head of the Lebanese Shi'a Moslem "Amal" movement, has pledged to continue his efforts to secure the release of four French hostages detained in Lebanon.

Speaking in an interview on French television Friday night, he said he could not set a date for their release although there was a good chance it would be before Christmas.

The interview was recorded in Beirut on November 29, a few days before the release of Tony Abu Ghanim, one of two Lebanese prisoners Amal claimed were being held by the Israelis and whose freedom was demanded by Mr. Birri as a condition of releasing the Frenchmen.

Jean-Charles Deniau, the journalist who interviewed Mr. Birri, said he was convinced the hostages were alive, and came very close to interviewing researcher Michel Seurat and journalist Jean-Paul Kauffman, who have been held for seven months. The other two hostages, both diplomats, have been held for nine months.

Mr. Deniau said during the live broadcast that since the release of the Lebanese prisoner, negotiations had been going on at all levels in Lebanon and beyond to secure the release of the hostages.

Israelis Gunboats 'Besieging' Port of Tyre

NC141224 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Israel has been besieging the port of Tyre for several days now. A number of Israeli gunboats were spotted off the Lebanese coast this morning, and they prevented ships from entering the port of Tyre.

Syrian Units Surround Hizballah Forces

NC141036 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Our Al-Biqa' correspondent reports that members of the Syrian forces fired on Hizballah's leader in Al-Biqa', Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli, when he failed to stop at a Syrian Army checkpoint. The Hizballah forces announced a state of alert among their followers in Ba'labakk immediately thereafter.

Meanwhile, Syrian units have surrounded the Hizballah forces, and have issued a memorandum, which has been circulated to all Syrian Army checkpoints and positions, calling for Shaykh Al-Tufayli's arrest and presentation to the Syrian Army Command.

Forces Approve Phalangist Proposal for Committee

NC150652 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] The Lebanese Forces have approved a Phalangist Party proposal to form ajoint committee, which will draft a plan to develop party regulations, and to create a joint emergency committee to implement the program. The Lebanese Forces will announce the names of their representatives on the committee within the next 24 hours.

'Several' New Naval Units Received From USSR

JN150848 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Under the patronage of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, the commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, a ceremony was held at one of our naval bases yesterday on the occasion of incorporating several new naval units into our fleet. General Hikmat al-Shihabi, chief of staff of the Army and Armed Forces, attended the ceremony on behalf of President al-Asad. General 'Ali Aslan and Major General Hasan Turkumani, deputy chiefs of staff of the Army and Armed Forces, and officers also attended the ceremony.

The ceremony began with the Syrian Arab anthem. Those attending then observed a 1-minute silence in honor of our righteous martyrs.

The commander of the Naval Froce delivered a speech welcoming His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad's representative. Addressing the fighters, he urged them to pursue their productive work and continue their training to maintain their combat preparedness so that Syria may remain the impregnable bastion that confronts all campaigns of conspiracy and aggression.

The USSR ambassador in Damascus delivered a speech praising President Hafiz al-Asad's wise and courageous leadership, the principled and firm stands in confrontation of imperialist schemes of aggression, and Syria's effective and prominent role in the region. He wished Syrian-USSR relations further progress, development, and success in service of the two friendly countries' common causes. Gen Hikmat al-Shihabi then delivered a speech in which he conveyed President al-Asad's greetings to the friendly Soviet people and his wishes for further progress and prosperity. Al-Shihabi emphasized the improtance of this type of weapon in light of the development of modern scientific and military technology and noted that the political and military command under the canopy of the corrective movement that President Hafiz al-Asad has led has given due attention and great care to securing new and sophisticated military hardware to make our Army and Armed Forces a modern army.

Gen Hikmat al-Shihabi added: Our struggle in this country is part of the struggle the world peoples are waging against imperialism and Zionism. He praised the friendly USSR's support for Syria to enable it to attain strategic balance with the Zionist enemy and regain the Arab nation's legitimate rights.

Concluding, General Hikmat al-Shihabi thanked the Soviet crew and the trainers for the efforts they have exerted in training the cadres that will operate these naval units.

The Soviet flag was then lowered from the naval units and the Syrian Arab flag was hoisted in its place. General Hikmat al-Shihabi inspected the units after this, and the ceremony ended with the Syrian Arab anthem.

Defense Minister Talas Comments on Army Maneuvers

JN132023 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Excerpts] On instructions by President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces and president of the Republic, our Armed Forces crowned their training season with their autumn maneuvers. Some of our combat formations carried out operational maneuvers in which all Army corps participated and which showed complete cooperation among ground, air, naval, and paratroop forces.

General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Froces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, attended the maneuvers. He was accompanied by General Hikmat al-Shihabi, chief of staff of the Army and the Armed Forces; General 'Ali Aslan and Major General Hasan Turkumani, deputies to the chief of staff of the Army and the Armed Forces; and a number of ranking General Command and formation officers.

At the end of the maneuvers, Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, praised formations participating in the maneuvers — both commanders and fighters — and commented on the maneuvers. He affirmed the need to maintain a high combat preparedness, to continue training, and to exert efforts so that Syria would remain in the forefront of confrontation against the ferocious imperialist-Zionist onslaught, especially during this phase in which the sides to Camp David, as well as agent reactionary forces, are moving in an attempt to encircle Syria's pan-Arab role in the region and to contain Arab steadfast forces in order to abort their militant role.

The general urged the fighters to adhere to struggler President Hafiz al-Asad's immortal slogan: martyrdom or victory. He also urged them to continue struggle under his wise leadership to realize our people's objectives and aspirations in liberating the occupied territory, achieving victory over the Zionist enemy, crushing its haughtiness, and regaining our Arab Palestinian people's rights regardless of sacrifices. The general also affirmed that our Armed Forces will remain faithful to their pan-Arab principles and prepared to defend Arab causes and achieve our people's objectives of unity, freedom, and socialism.

UAE Paper: Confederation With Jordan Considered

GF131509 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic
13 Dec 85 pp 1, 21

[Text] A Syrian source has told *AL-KHALIJ* that part of the new Jordanian-Syrian understanding provides for the resumption of efforts to establish a confederal union between the two countries. He added that Iraq is reassessing its policy and that a new development has appeared in its attitude toward the Syrian role in Lebanon.

The source was commenting on the visit to Amman by Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm and the statements made by Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi foreign minister, during his visit to London last week.

The source said that "what has been described as the Syrian-Jordanian reconciliation is in fact a process of restoring matters on their normal course." He pointed out that during the period 1974-1979, relations between Jordan and Syria witnessed "serious developments" and the announcement of a confederal union was expected. However, there were "obstacles which halted the process."

The source said that "Syria wants to resume its relations with Jordan from where they had stopped." He added: "We will not go back to square one."

The source said that "joint Syrian-Jordanian committees had made plans for merging institutions in the two countries on various levels before the break in relations nearly 6 years ago. The source said that the plans are there, and with relations back to normal these plans are being revived and made ready for implementation."

The joint communique on the meeting between Al-Kasm and Al-Rifa'i referred to the need to revive the aforementioned joint committees. It did not, however, refer to the plans to resume unification efforts between Jordan and Syria.

The source said that as a condition to restore its relations with Iraq to their normal course, Syria also stipulates that these relations must be restored where they were left 5 years ago. The source pointed out that Damascus and Baghdad "had committed themselves to a charter of pan-Arab action and proceeded on the path of total unity. The only thing left to do was to sign this before the break between them occurred."

The source expressed annoyance at the saying that Syria is able to stop the Gulf war if it wants. He said: "This is like saying that Syria can end the Lebanese war if it wants." He added: Damascus has been able to limit Iranian extremism and to prevent the spread of the war. He said: "The situation on the Gulf front is now more complicated than it was 4 years ago. When the number of victims rises and catastrophes multiply, mediation becomes more complicated." He compared the situation in the Gulf with the situation in Lebanon and said: "If the tripartite agreement was signed 4 years ago, its implementation would have been easier then than it is today."

The Syrian official denied any connection between the difficultry of implementing the tripartite agreement in Lebanon and the failure to bring about a rapprochement between Damascus and Baghdad. He said that the agreement should have been signed more than 2 weeks ago. However, "it appears that the Lebanese brothers agree on certain things when they are in Damascus but reject them after they leave." He added: "Pressures are being exerted on Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil to paralyse him and weaken his stands. He must be firm and neutral and work for the good of the whole of Lebanon and not just for one party."

The Syrian official asserted that "Syria is setting no conditions for Iraq that are connected with people in power. It is always ready to resume efforts toward unity."

He referred to "a new Iraqi tone" in speaking about the Syrian role in Lebanon. He was commenting on what was reported to him: that Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz refused to comment on the Lebanese issue, saying "it is not possible to speak about Lebanon without speaking about the Syrian role there. I am not ready now to speak about the Syrian role because of the critical situation."

Iran's Khatami Arrives on Visit, Makes Statement

JN131713 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1615 GMS 13 Dec 85

[Text] Damascus — Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami, Iranian Islamic guidance minister, arrived in Damascus this afternoon leading an official delegation on a visit to Syria, which will last several days, at the invitation of Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh.

He was received at Damascus International Airport by Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh, assistant information, education, and culture ministers, directors of information establishments, the director of the Foreign Ministry Information Department, senior Information Ministry officials, the Iranian charge d'affaires in Damascus, and the embassy staff.

On arrival, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami made a press statement, saying: I am carrying a message from Iranian President Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Khamene'i to President Hafiz al-Asad. I am also carrying a message from the Iranian prime minister to Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm.

In his statement, Khatami affirmed that relations between the two countries are good. He said: We stand together in confronting the danger of imperialism and Zionism. He affirmed that bilateral cultural relations will enter a new phase. He expressed his happiness on visiting Syria.

Talks Begin

JN142050 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1915 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Damascus — The first session of talks began today between the Syrian Arab delegation led by Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh and the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran led by Islamic Guidance Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami.

At the beginning of the session, Khatami expressed his pleasure at visiting Syria, which is linked to the Islamic revolution by cultural and informational common denominators. He also said that after the success of the Islamic revolution, Syria and Iran began a new stage of good relations. Khatami asserted that Iran supports Syria in its confronation with imperialism and Zionism after being a center of imperialism and Zionism during the Shah's era.

Khatami said that bilateral relations will enter a new stage after signing an agreement in the interest of both friendly countries and in the service of the Third World. The guest minister affirmed that the stands of the Iranian revolution toward Syria will continue to be positive.

Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh welcomed Islamic Guidance Minister Khatami and the guest delegation. Rajjuh said: We in Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad are fully convinced of the importance of the Islamic Iranian revolution's struggle against imperialism and Zionism. Rajjuh pointed out Syria's strategic position in confronting Zionist aggression supported by U.S. imperialism. He praised the stand of the Iranian Islamic revolution in support of our steadfastness against imperialism and Zionism. The information minister added: We stand in the same trench with our friends in Iran against the plotting of U.S. imperialism and world Zionism. He stressed that cultural cooperation plays an effective role in achieving the objectives and ideals for which we are all working.

Both delegations then discussed the articles of cultural and information cooperation. It was decided to form two working groups to coordinate preliminary proposals and ideas in order to lay down bases for a cultural and information cooperation agreeement between the two friendly countreis. The two groups will present the result of their work to Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh and Islamic Guidance Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Muhammad Khatami in a later meeting.

The talks were attended on the Syrian side by assistant information, culture, education, and awqaf ministers, directors of information establishments, and representatives of some ministries. The talks were attended on the Iranian side by the members of the Iranian delegation accompanying Islamic Guidance Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami.

Khatami Meets With Al-Asad

JN151259 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text) President Hafiz al-Asad received Iranian Guidance Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Muhammad Khatami and the accompanying delegation at 1245 today. The meeting was attended by Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh. Khatami conveyed to President Hafiz al-Asad a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i. The president asked him to convey a similar message and his wishes and greetings to President Khamene'i, the Iranian leadership, and the friendly Iranian people. The talks revolved around the situation in the region and issues of mutual interest.

PDRY Party Official Makes Statement, Departs

JN140657 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] The YSP delegation led by Abu Bakr Ba Dhib, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, left Damascus for home yesterday evening following a 1-week visit to Syria. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and several Ba'th Party National Command members.

In a statement to SANA, Ba Dhib described his talks and meetings with the comrades and officials at the Ba'th Party National Command, crowned by his meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad, as fruitful and extremely useful. He praised Syria's accomplishments under the leadership of the Ba'th Party and its secretary general, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad.

He expressed his conviction that this visit will help promote cooperation between the two countries and parties in the service of their joint issues and the Arab nation's aspirations for liberation, social progress, and unity.

Syria Advances SAM Missiles to Lebanese Border

TA151435 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Syria has changed its deployment of surface-to-air missiles along its border with Lebanon in the last few weeks. Military sources have confirmed that the IDF is following the latest developments.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that in the last 3 weeks Syria has advanced several SAM-2 missile batteries to its border with Lebanon. Several SAM-6 missile batteries were brought into Lebanon, to the vicinity of the Beirut-Damascus highway at Ba'labakk, but were removed after a few days. SAM-2 batteries are now stationed in the Al-Zabadani mountain ridge, south of the city of Hims and the harbor-city of Tartus.

IDF sources have told our correspondent that the new deployment impairs the IDF's ability to gather information about terrorist targets in Al-Biqa' and the Israeli Air Force's ability to strike at these targets. Our correspondent notes that about 1 month ago the Air Force shot down two Syrian MIG-23's in a dogfight while they were trying to disrupt a reconnaissance flight over Lebanon. IDF sources noted that this was an isolated incident triggered by the threat posed to our aircraft. Israel has made it clear to Syria that the incident does not denote a change in its policy in the area.

In the last few weeks, Israel and the United States have been in regular contact to update each other and conduct diplomatic activity. Our correspondent points out that as early as 1 and 1/2 years ago Syria prepared dug-outs for surface-to-air missiles in the above-mentioned sites.

Reaction to Syrian Change of Missile Deployment

Peres: 'No Hasty Conclusions'

TA151730 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal on 15 December; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Tal] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told us today that no hasty conclusions should be reached on the matter of changes in Syria's missile deployment. The issue, he says, is still being examined.

[Peres] I as yet do not know what the situation is exactly. In my opinion, the situation has not yet stabilized. Again, I see no need for any premature declarations. Israel hopes that the Syrians will honor the status quo that has been determined in the field.

[Tal] Does this action by the Syrians, of moving the missiles toward Lebanon, have grave significance for Israel?

[Peres] I do not believe an escalation should be caused or that threats should be made. The situation will be very seriously examined, but I can only repeat that Israel is not interested in any military confrontation or escalation in the field. I hope that the Syrians also hold these positions.

Says Israel 'Does Not Wish' War

TA151615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] The prime minister has declared that Israel does not wish to go to war with Syria and does not want the situation to deteriorate. However, he is not impressed by statements on this matter. He told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that Israel will act according to developments in the field.

Gen Levi: Flight Activity Impaired

TA151530 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi stated today that our freedom of flight over Lebanon has been significantly impaired in the wake of the change in the Syrian missile deployment. The chief of staff made these remarks on the Erev Hadash television program.

[Begin Levi recording] If you station missiles in Lebanon, this disrupts the activity of our aircraft there; if you advance missiles whose range and lethal capacity covers the whole of Lebanon to a point in Syrian territory, this affects our freedom of flight over Lebanon. I will not elaborate here on the activities of the Israeli Air Force, but I will say that the stationing of these missiles has a disruptive effect and significantly impairs our freedom of flight over Lebanon. [end recording]

Abba Eban: No Crisis

TA152015 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Interview in the studio with Knesset Member Abba Eban, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, by anchorman Ya'aqov Ahime'ir — live]

[Excerpt] [Ahime'ir] In your opinion, should Israel dictate or pressure Syria into withdrawing the missiles they have moved to the Lebanese border?

[Eban] I completely identify with the prime minister's restrained and balanced reaction on television, and which I heard in my talk this morning with the defense minister. This is certainly an unwanted development, but there are three facts which speak in favor of strong nerves and a balanced position: a. Reference is, all the same, to land under Syrian sovereignty; b. We do not have an agreement with Syria over this sector as we do with the Golan Heights; and c. There is a need to seek a political, and perhaps technical, means which would enable us to deal with the problem that has arisen.

[Ahime'ir] Indeed, when these missiles are situated or deployed in land under Syrian sovereignty, how can Israel deal with the matter, and what reason can Israel give?

[Eban] This is our legal weakness in dealing with this problem since we are lacking the same type of agreement which, I am pleased to say, we have in the other sector. I know that sometimes we hold consultations with the United States. Murphy comes and goes. Perhaps there is a way to obtain both advice and backing, but the emphasis must be on the political handling of this matter. For this reason I welcome the spirit of the remarks made by the prime minister. We are not interested in an escalation.

[Ahime'ir] Knesset Member Eban, lately we have been hearing about a large-scale exercise the Syrians held in the Golan Heights. Although this military exercise was defined as a defense exercise, it seems to me that there are citizens who are asking themselves whether we are moving toward a military escalation with Syria.

[Eban] The fact of the exercise did not surprise any of us, that is, any of us whose national job is to follow Syrian moves. Thus, there was nothing surprising about this exercise. Naturally, when an exercise is held, the IDF must be more on the alert, and I trust that the IDF recognizes this lesson from our past experience. Basically speaking, however, from all the reports I have heard, and I am entitled to receive many reports, there is definitely some tension, but I do not think there is a crisis. I do not think there is any need for an escalation.

Peres Announces Results of Tabah Talks

TA141820 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said that during the talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations it was agreed that all the issues disputed by the two countries would be discussed simultaneously. This refers to the issues of Tabah, normalization of relations, the return of the Egyptian ambassador, and the search for Israeli MIA's. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that the prime minister made these remarks at the Jerusalem conference of the Labor Party.

Mr Peres also revealed that it was agreed that the side that does not gain sovereignty over Tabah would be allowed free passage and the right to jointly manage the area. He noted that if arbitration is decided upon, the Egyptians are prepared to allow the arbiters to put forward their own proposals if no decision is reached.

As for the autonomy talks, the prime minister said that this issue has died and that an agreement does not even exist for the continuation of the discussion on this matter.

Our correspondent points out that all the matters concerned with Tabah require approval by the Inner Cabinet.

Comments on Party Stand

TA141953 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said that a decision on the disputed Tabah question must be reached this week. In a speech before party members in Jerusalem, the prime minister revealed the agreements reached this week in the talks in Herzliyya. It was agreed that arbitration would begin after a period of conciliation; the formulation of the letter of arbitration was decided on; and it was also agreed that the side that loses the arbitration will be allowed free access to Tabah.

Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen reports that the prime minister wants a decision on Tabah to be reached at the Inner Cabinet meeting on Wednesday and hopes that a majority, made up of the Alignment ministers and at least some of the Likud ministers, will be found in favor of arbitration. Here is an excerpt of the prime minister's remarks on his party's stand on the matter of peace with Egypt:

[Begin recording] We as a party were in favor of peace with Egypt in spite of the fact that we were critical of various clauses in the peace accord. Today, as a responsible movement, as responsible people, we want to establish peace and remove the obstacles that stand in the way. On this issue, our movement will have to take a very firm and clear stand. I am not saying that within the national unity government the Likud should accept the Alignment Party's positions. I am also not saying the opposite, that in the national unity government the Alignment Party should adopt the most radical positions and trends within the Likud. For more than a year we have held a dialogue with Egypt. A decision must be made and we will make it. The rotation is not the main thing, although we will honor all agreements. The content is the main issue. We have made a supreme effort to rescue Israel from isolation, to revive the economy, and in neither case will we weaken our efforts or become weakminded. [end recording]

Likud Reacts 'With Reservations'

TA150921 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
15 Dec 85 pp 1, 8

[Report by Bina Barzel, Roni Shaqed, and Gad Li'or]

[Excerpt] Likud people reacted to Prime Minister Peres' remarks yesterday in Jerusalem concerning Tabah with great reservations. A top Likud source said: The prime minister's statement is grave, especially his remark that if we lose the arbitration we will see to it that we have a foothold there. This means that Peres is giving up on Tabah beforehand.

Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said his basic position regarding Tabah has not changed and that we have to hear the report of the Israeli team which negotiated with the Egyptians last week. Shamir reiterated that we must insist that there be conciliation first and that the Likud rejects Egypt's demand to begin with arbitration. "We must discuss all the outstanding issues between us and the Egyptians. Tabah does not head our list of priorities; it will not run away. In order to improve relations with Egypt we first of all have to deal with other issues, for example, we must receive the full report on the Ra's al-Burqa' affair."

Shamir Criticizes Announcement

TA151755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening leveled sharp criticism against Prime Minister Shim'on Peres for having announced yesterday, unilaterally and without authorization, that the autonomy chapter in the Camp David accords had been shelved. Mr Shamir called on the prime minister to retract these remarks at once and to announce that this had been a slip of the tongue. He was addressing the Herut Central Committee at Mezudat Ze'ev [Herut headquarters] in Tel Aviv. Our party affairs correspondent Amnon Nadav reports:

[Being recording] [Nadav] At the beginning of his speech this evening, the vice prime minister addressed the political issue which was the reason for his appearance at the Herut Central Committee session: a sharp reaction to Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' remarks yesterday, according to which the autonomy chapter in the Camp David accords had been shelved.

[Shamir] This is a serious and unilateral declaration which the prime minister had no authority or right to make. No one person, even if he is the prime minister, has the right to abrogate a Knesset resolution which, as is known and should be recalled, was passed in 1978-1979. No single person has the right or authority to cancel an international commitment given by Israel that was also signed by the Egyptian and U.S. Governments.

I ask the prime minister: Who gave you the right and authority to do this?

[Nadav] Shamir asked whether Shim'on Peres really wishes to join Egyptian President Mubarak and PLO leader 'Arafat, who made a similar announcement with the purpose of bringing about the establishment of a Palestinian state.

[Shamir] This announcement by the prime minister does not commit either the Israeli Government or the State of Israel [applause]. I call on Prime Minister Peres to retract these words at once and announce that this was a slip of the tongue and a mistake and that he did not mean to cancel this international commitment by Israel. [end recording]

Shamir on Relations With U.S., Tabah Issue

TA140920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0811 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Eytan Almog for the "Weekly Newsreel" program; recorded "this week"]

[Text] [Almog] Mr Shamir, what can you tell us about the new affair between Israel and the United States concerning the illegal smuggling of a cannon-coating technology to Israel?

[Shamir] I still do not know all the details, but I do know that our embassy in Washington, after being informed of this incident, issued a statement to the effect that all things sent to Israel were purchased by the appropriate institutions and with proper licences, and according to all the regulations and laws.

[Almog] Beyond this latest affair, following the Pollard affair one receives the impression, at least to judge by the media reports both in Israel and in the United States, that something has gone wrong. You held a top post in the Mosad, you know the intelligence community; what has gone wrong in our establishment? What went wrong in relations between us and the Americans in this field?

[Shamir] I do not believe anything went wrong. There was a certain mishap, and we and the U.S. Administration are making a joint effort to work out all the problems following this mishap. The U.S. Government knows that all that has been done in this affair is contrary to the Israeli Government's policy and also contrary to the policy of our intelligence services; therefore, we should assume that after this issue is settled relations will be corrected and all the tension will vanish. I do not think there are any signals or messages here. We must take into consideration the fact that the U.S. Administration is not completely monolithic; there are various factors and components there, but those who make the final decisions have not changed their opinion on the nature of the relations between Israel and the United States.

[Almog] With your permission, let us pass to another issue which was and still is in the headlines, and this is the land scandal affair. One can say that the turning point occurred during the Likud government's time, during which the sale of lands to entrepreneurs was allowed, and perhaps this was the root of the evil?

[Shamir] This was not the root of the evil, it was a conscious and planned policy. Settlement in Israel throughout the years was mostly undertaken by entrepreneurs. It is true that we read and hear much about settlement initiated and directed by the Zionist Organization, the Jewish Agency, the Jewish National Fund, but in numerical terms most of the land and most of the population which settled in the densely populated areas in Israel was done by private initiative, and so when we decided to undertake massive Jewish settlement in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, it was clear that we should encourage private initiative in these areas, to encourage the establishing of populous settlements in order that there might be a meaningful and influential Jewish presence in these parts of Eretz Yisra'el, and this was done. Of course, when there is a settlement drive, when it is necessary to buy land from Arabs who find it difficult to sell due to threats and other reasons, due to the fact that land is not registered there, various problems arise. This also occurred in earlier times of settlement in Israel, and today as well it takes place in other areas of Israel. There were some incidents here in which problems arose and this demands investigation.

[Almog] When you say that this also occurred at earlier times, are you referring to specific cases that you remember?

[Shamir] I recall many affairs. I did not investigate this issue, but I remember that there were times when entrepreneurs among the pre-state Jewish public bought lands from Arabs, and before this was properly registered they started selling lots; there were years in which there was a procedure according to which people bought lots in installments, and eventually, after they had paid, all the formal issues relating to the registration of the land were completed, the land was divided, and everything ended to everybody's satisfaction: Everyone got what he deserved, the buyers got their lots. There were also cases, however, when this did not work out; various difficulties arose concerning the registration, there were conflicts between buyer and seller, and in these cases there were problems. There were cases in which the buyers received all their money back, and in other cases they resorted to the courts. This was part of the reality in Israel then, so I am not surprised that there are also such cases now, when we are witnessing a settlement drive in new parts we have not yet settled.

[Almog] Nevertheless, one can expect that a country which claims to be law-abiding would not follow ways and methods which you correctly pointed out were followed before the establishment of the state.

[Shamir] I did not criticize the procedures taken then; there were regulations and laws even during the British mandate, but despite the laws sometimes deviations do occur, and today too... [changes thought] I think that all those who have dealt with this issue acted with good intentions. Sometimes, however, difficulties have arisen, and in these cases ways should be found to resolve them.

[Almog] Mr Shamir, I believe there was once a prime minister in Israel who, when the morality of a Cabinet member was questioned, used the severe sentence: You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain?

[Shamir] I do not think there is any room for compromise on this issue. We must make no compromises in the ethical sphere.

[Almog] Even when, if we take last week's events into consideration, we are talking about a deputy minister in Israel [referring to Deputy Defense Minister Mikha'el Deqel, who was then deputy agriculture minister]?

[Shamir] Nobody is accusing the deputy minister of any ethical blemish; nobody thinks he acted dishonestly or that he tried to use his position for private advantage. Therefore it is not relevant in this case. I realize that there are people who want to besmirch certain government offices which did not exactly comply with regulations and laws.

[Almog] Sir, do you associate yourself with Likud Knesset Member Kaufman's remarks in which he accused the police affairs minister and the police of taking what he termed the Bar-Lev line, that is, politicizing the police?

[Shamir] I already said that I would not accuse Israeli policemen of doing what they are doing for political motives. Were we to conduct a poll among the police, I do not know how their political preferences would look. I have no doubt, however, that there is a political aim behind all the exaggeration, the blowing of this investigation out of proportion. Many investigations are conducted in Israel into many issues, issues which in terms of legality and criminal offenses are much more serious than this land case the police is dealing with. However, I did not see these things being blown out of proportion, I did not see any investigations being written about every day, or newspaper pages filled with this or television newscasts leading with this. These things appear in print once or twice, and that's it. I do not understand the gravity of this affair in terms of legality, both for the police and the judiciary. There is an exaggeration here, it is being blown out of proportion, and these things are politically motivated.

[Almog] Look, one must also try to sympathize with people who invested their money in a dubious venture, and there are suspicions that at least some of this money found its way to the Likud's coffers.

[Shamir] Isn't it surprising that we hear nothing from the people who were robbed? Who are they? Nobody hears anything. I read in the newspapers that the contractor Gindi, who is being charged in this affair, has returned most of the money he is accused of having collected. I do not hear other people crying out that money was taken from them without receiving anything in return. What I do hear is the shouts of people from certain parties and the evil and baseless leaks.

[Almog] Sir, did the Likud coffers benefit from money which has arrived from entrepreneurs or people who have benefited from the land deals?

[Shamir] I do not know exactly who contributed money to the Likud's election campaign — it was an election time then — I assume, however, that those who contributed included people involved in settling Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, and there is nothing here which is contrary to the law.

[Almog] Mr Shamir, with your permission let us turn to an issue that will probably keep you very busy next week, and that is the Inner Cabinet session slated for next Wednesday. Apparently the recommendations of the director generals delegation for talks in Herzliyya last week concerning arbitration will be tabled then. What decisions or recommendations will you bring before the government next Wednesday?

[Shamir] Look, I still do not know what the members of the Israeli delegation for the latest talks with the Egyptians will bring. According to the Inner Cabinet's previous decisions they should brief the Inner Cabinet about their talks, and not only on the question of Tabah and the arbitration, but rather on the entire range of relations between us and Egypt. Let me reiterate that the main problem is how to improve and advance relations between us and Egypt, how to make these truly peaceful relations, normal relations, what is termed normalization [last word in English]. This is the main problem, and I believe that within this whole the Tabah problem is not the most important element. I would place it much lower on the scale of priorities; the main thing is how to strengthen the peace for which we paid such a heavy price. The Tabah issue is not difficult or complicated. We have a clear agreement on how to proceed in solving this problem: in accordance with the peace agreement, and in accordance with a special agreement from 25 April 1982. We should proceed toward solving this problem by negotiations, conciliation, or arbitration. We propose what we proposed in 1982, 3 and 1/2 years ago: to proceed with conciliation, assuming that the method of negotiations has been exhausted. Look here, had the Egyptians agreed, in 1982 — and some of them did agree to proceed with conciliation; I know that the prime minister and foreign ministers in office at that time agreed to it, but they did not receive the president's approval — had they agreed then, it is very possible that later on we would have agreed to follow the path of arbitration and the problem would have been settled, but they, out of a stubborness I cannot understand rejected this. And today we say: Gentlemen, if we have to begin from square one today, let us start with the process of conciliation, and if it does not work out we will discuss it again. After all Tabah will not run away.

Defense Ministry: Procurement 'Completely Legal'

TA131447 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Following checks, the Defense Ministry has announced that the business link with the NAPCO Company in the United States was formed legally. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that this deals with a decision by the military industry to build a chrome-coating facility. It turned to a number of companies in Europe and the United States and finally chose the NAPCO Company, which specializes in coating technologies. In the signed contract, NAPCO undertook to supply the entire facility and to take care of all the licenses and export permits needed from the U.S. authorities. It also promised that there would be no patent or knowhow [yeda'] claims. The Israeli procurement mission in New York also asked the U.S. Administration for financing for the deal in the framework of U.S. military aid to Israel, and permission or approval for the deal was given as called for by law. All the consignments were made by the customs agent of the procurement mission and the bills of lading were legally issued. The Defense Ministry reemphasizes that the contract, the shipment, and the use of equipment were all completely legal, according to Israeli law and to the rules adhered to by the Washington administration.

Our correspondent adds that the defense minister is currently conferring with the U.S. ambassador to Israel. Foreign sources said earlier the matter deals with a process of coating barrels of cannons with chrome, a process that prolongs the use of the cannon and refines the ability to hit on target.

Rabin Briefs Cabinet on Affair

TA151154 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1144 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Excerpt] In today's Cabinet meeting the defense minister reported that he met with the U.S. ambassador to Israel last Friday and asked him for an explanation for the affair which evolved in the United States about the chrome plating plant. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that the defense minister said the Israeli Military Industry signed an agreement with this plant in December 1984 and the U.S. Defense Department approved Israel's purchase, using the funds allocated to it in the framework of the U.S. aid. Israel acted legally and openly, Rabin said, and its mention in this affair is surprising.

Officials Angered by Investigation

TA131723 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Israel will ask the United States tonight for explanations regarding the investigation being conducted by the FBI into the so-called illegal export of sensitive technology to Israel. This is reported by our correspondent Razi Barqay. Israeli officials in Washington have expressed their surprise and anger over the investigation. The federal prosecutor of the State of New York confirmed that authorities are investigating the illegal smuggling of a cannon-coating technology to Israel. The Israeli Embassy in the United States and the Defense Ministry say that the business link with the United States was formed legally and that the U.S. Administration even allocated funds for the deal in the framework of military aid to Israel.

Menahem Meron, the Defense Ministry's director general, believes that the entire investigation may be the result of oversuspiciousness. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that Menahem Meron told journalists that the searches conducted yesterday had been preplanned, the proof for this being that television crews accompanied the customs officials. He emphasized that the Defense Ministry examined the contracts and the progression of events meticulously and thoroughly, and there is no doubt that absolutely nothing wrong was done in this case. Our military correspondent notes that all the files of the contracts signed on this issue were brought to the Defense Ministry's director general today.

U.S. Waging 'Harassment Campaign'

TA150719 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Dec 85 pp 1, 8

[Report from Washington by Wolf Blitzer and from Jerusalem by Avi Hoffmann]

[Excerpts] The raid Thursday by U.S. customs agents on three locations related to NAPCO Inc., a U.S. company that is under contract to supply Israel with the knowhow for making a new tank-cannon barrel, was seen by Israeli officials here as part of a harassment campaign against Jerusalem by the U.S. Government.

John Hapsopoulos, a senior vice president and spokesman for NAPCO, the parent company of Thermo Electron which makes the devices needed to produce the tank barrels, told *THE JERUSALEM POST* on Friday that his organization had not done anything illegal. He said the company may not have completed all the necessary "paperwork," but argued that the U.S. Defence Department had authorized the technology transfer to Israel and that U.S. military aid to Israel was paying for the equipment. "The order was approved and paid for by the Pentagon," he said. "Maybe we didn't fill out some forms, but there were no illegal acts."

Sources in Jerusalem expressed the hope that the latest affair had not been engineered by circles in Washington interested in damaging Israel-U.S. relations. The sources noted that what should have been a routine probe of possible illegal exportation became a media event. Israeli officials in Washington spent most of Friday trying to determine what had occurred and why the raids had been granted such extensive publicity. The Israeli ambassador Me'ir Rosenne met with the undersecretary of state, Michael Armacost, to discuss the issue.

Israeli officials said Rosenne had complained to Armacost and other officials at the State Department and elsewhere. Later, the State Department said that no Israeli official or agency has been implicated in any illegal activity "at this time."

Israeli officials were more concerned about the political ramifications of the raids than the legal issues involved. In recent years, other allegations of illegal military technology transfers to Israel have been handled quietly.

Officials in Jerusalem assumed the affair was a result of a "misunderstanding" and said that the U.S. authorities appeared to have been "misinformed." The sources speculated that the misunderstanding stemmed from a breakdown in communication between various U.S. Government agencies.

Intelligence Cooperation Halt With U.S. 'Temporary'

TA150920 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
15 Dec 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Political circles in Jerusalem said on the weekend that the interruption [hafsaqat] of the intelligence cooperation between Israel and the United States, as published in *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, is a temporary matter.

It was made clear in contacts with the United States that no change has occurred in the U.S. position in principle on this matter, and that business will return to normal after feelings aroused by the Pollard affair subside.

The investigation of the Pollard affair in Israel, under the leadership of Sofaer, is being conducted under a complete blackout, and it is not known where it is taking place. It is expected that Mr Sofaer will receive classified documents which Pollard admitted selling to Israel. U.S. statesmen said that the Washington Administration leaders indeed believe that Peres knew nothing about this espionage case. At the same time, Washington wants to examine, by means of the investigation currently under way, how this espionage affair went on without Peres knowing about it. The Americans want to know who is responsible for this affair and whether there are additional spies, a U.S. Administration source said.

Peres on PLO-Jordan Delegation Negotiations

TA150552 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0508 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Report by Shalom Oren]

[Excerpt] On the issue of the negotiations with Jordan and the Palestinian delegation, Prime Minister Peres hinted that Israel will not wait forever. He said the problem is the PLO, its main weakness being its inability to make decisions.

[Begin Peres recording] It is possible that this is the last opportunity to solve the Palestinian problem in a suitable way. Failure to solve this problem will be a tragedy to the Palestinians, and to us as well. They are playing around with time too much and are too busy with ploys. [end recording]

The prime minister says that Jordan has a strong interest in peace, and its main problem was the issue of international accompaniment. The prime minister stressed that previous governments have also decided on international accompaniment, and that we shall proceed with no hesitation on this issue.

Rabin: Defense Cuts Possible Due to Arab Disunity

TA141108 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that we can cut the defense budget and thereby contribute to the rehabilitation of the economy only thanks to the Arab world's inability to unite against Israel. Our correspondent Shalom Oren says that Minister Rabin participated in the Labor Party's Jerusalem Conference, where the party convention is being prepared. Rabin said that the Arab world has still not overcome the obstacle of recognizing Israel, and therefore we must put a lot into defense. However, the fact that in his opinion Jordan will not join Syria, that Egypt has left the circle of war, and that Iraq is fighting with Iran, leaves Syria on its own as a potential threat, and therefore Israel can take a risk in terms of security.

Sanyurah Accuses Israel of Blocking Peace Efforts

TA151150 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Hanna Sanyurah, editor of the East Jerusalem newspaper *AL-FAJR*, has accused the government of preventing efforts by local Palestinians to further the Middle East peace process. Sanyurah says Israel has prevented residents of East Jerusalem and the territories from traveling to Jordan to try to persuade the PLO to accept UN Resolutions 242 and 338.

IDF Soldier Stabbed in Nabulus 14 Dec

TA141515 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] An IDF soldier who was on a foot patrol in the Clock Square in Nabulus received a slight stab wound this afternoon. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that soldiers who participated in the patrol chased the assailant and caught him. He is presently being interrogated. The security forces are investigating the background of the attack.

New UNIFIL Enclaves in S. Lebanon 'Intolerable'

TA160534 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] UNIFIL has established several enclaves in the security zone in southern Lebanon which soldiers of the Army of Southern Lebanon [ASL] are not permitted to enter. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that in accordance with heavy pressures exerted by several countries in Western Europe, Israel has ordered the ASL not to clash with UNIFIL. Elements in the defense establishment in the north told our correspondent that the new situation is intolerable because the enclaves are very near the Israeli border.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives Chad's Habre on Stopover

LD141821 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Chadian President Hissein Habre today stopped over in Algiers. He was greeted by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the (FLN) party. The two presidents held talks during the luncheon banquet held at the VIP Hall at the airport. The Chadian president left Algiers afterward.

Foreign Minister Receives ANC's Tambo

LD161042 Algiers APS in English 1443 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Algiers, 14 Dec 85 (APS) — The foreign affairs minister, Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, audienced here the chairman of the African National Congress (ANC) Oliver Tambo. The talks were centered on the development of the South African people struggle against the apartheid regime and the political situation in Austral Africa.

Tambo was also audienced by Saddek Zouaten [spelling as received] member of the C.C. Permanent Secretariat.

Messaadia Meets With Tambo

LD161051 Algiers APS in English 1317 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Algiers, 15 Dec 85 (APS) — The head of the C.C. Permanent Secretariat Mohamed Cherif Messaadia audienced here Saturday the chairman of the African National Congress (ANC) Oliver Tambo.

The two sides examined during the talks the latest developments which marked the struggle of the South African people under the leadership of ANC.

LIBYA

UK Paper Reports 'Large Scale' USSR Military Aid

LD150823 London THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH 15 December 85 p 2

["Al-Qadhdhafi's Missile Threat" by diplomatic correspondent Norman Kirkham]

[Text] Russia is sending more than 100 powerful SAM-5 missiles into Libya and 2,000 military advisers to create an air defence "umbrella" covering parts of the Mediterranean and North Africa.

The move will bolster Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi's administration after recent attempts to overthrow or assassinate him, with increasing economic problems and spreading criticism at home of his frenetic policies.

Egypt, alarmed by the unexpectedly large scale of the new Russian assistance, is watching anxiously as the buildup begins.

Diplomatic reports from Cairo and Libya say that the missiles are to be set up in three bases, each of six batteries, outside Tripoli, Benghazi and in western Libya near the Egyptian border.

The Sam 5's, 30 ft long with a range of nearly 200 miles, will parallel a similar missile air defence system over the Eastern Mediterranean installed by Russia in Syria.

Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi has concluded the deal to buy them following his visit to Moscow in October although Mr Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, tried then to persuade him to help cool tensions in the Middle East and stop his bitter attacks on the Israeli and Egyptian Governments.

Teams of Russian advisers are expected to train Libyan crews to operate the Sam 5's over the next two years. The Cairo sources also report that some of the Russians are instructing fanatical Arab commandos led by Abu Nidal.

Men of Abu Nidal's Liberation Front claimed responsibility for the recent hijacking of an Egyptian airliner to Malta, and Egypt fears that more assaults on airliners and other targets will be launched from Libya.

Western diplomats believe that Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi is facing a growing threat from within his own army after reports that units of the army and air force mutinied in September, resisting orders to invade Tunisia. Some 43 officers were arrested then.

A gunman is said to have recently attempted to shoot the Colonel, and there have been several other abortive plots to try to remove him since he first seized power 16 years ago.

Major Jallud Meets Gunt's Oueddei

LD150419 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, 14 Dec (JANA) — Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud conferred at noon today with Brother Goukouni Oueddei, head of the Transitional Government of National Unity in Chad. The meeting was attended by Acheikh Ibn Oumar, Adoum (Togoi) and Abba Said.

Oueddaye Warning to France

LD142036 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1855 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, 14 Dec (JANA) — Mr Goukouni Oueddaye, the head of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] in Chad has warned France and the colonial and reactionary sides, and particularly the Egyptian regime, to put an end to their direct intervention in the domestic affairs of the people of Chad.

Mr Goukouni Oueddaye told the correspondents of Arab and international newspapers and news agencies in Tripoli tonight that his GUNT in Chad is the legitimate representative of the people of Chad, and it stems from the Lagos agreements of 1980. The GUNT government thinks establishing peace in Chad by way of negotiations and national reconciliation as a first priority, but if this course does not succeed and the colonial and reactionary sides resort to increasing the struggle, the GUNT in Chad will resort to force to liberate the country.

Mr Goukouni Oueddaye, in reply to the questions of reporters, affirmed that the French Government, under American and reactionary influence, is currently preparing — especially in light of the convening of the French-African summit — to mount a large-scale attack against the positions of the Chad revolutionary fighters and it is working to convince certain sides of this. It is trying to mobilize African public opinion toward this end.

He said that the French Government is searching for a collective African move to serve its own ends, particularly in Chad, so it can strengthen French attitudes and bolster a person in Ndjamena who currently is working for the benefit of France.

Mr Goukouni Oueddaye affirmed that the French forces, and particularly French warplanes, have stepped up their flights in Chadian airspace and over the GUNT positions to create an atmosphere that could allow it to intervene directly.

Mr Goukouni Oueddaye condemned the attitude of both the Egyptian regime and the Central African Republic Government. He said that their stand toward the issue of the Chadian people is not new. They have always worked for preparing the way for the foreign forces in Africa.

The head of GUNT in Chad warned against the attempts aimed at internationalizing the conflict in Chad and also against the French plans of thrusting the Chad question into domestic politics in France to gain public support at this time.

Mr Goukouni Oueddaye affirmed that the GUNT still considers national reconciliation in Chad through the OAU and the efforts of the Congolese President Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso as the best way for restoring peace in Chad without any foreign intervention.

During his press conference, Goukouni Oueddaye appealed to African public opinion and the progressive forces and the international public opinion to support the people of Chad and also appealed to French public opinion to ask its government to abandon its direct intervention in the domestic affairs of Chad and to do this in the interest of respecting human rights.

It is noteworthy that Goukouni Oueddaye announced at his press conference the completion of the formation and the reorganization of the Supreme Council of the Revolution and the GUNT.

The press conference of Mr Goukouni Oueddaye was attended by Ahmed Abba Said, the chairman of the Supreme Council of the Revolution and Acheikh ibn Oumer, the minister of state and coordinator in the Chadian GUNT.

France Monitoring Troop Movements From Tunisia

LD152030 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, 15 Dec (JANA) — The French news agency has stated that Libyan movements in Chad have been under constant surveillance by France from the French radar systems spread over Tunisia and Central Africa.

The newspaper *LE FIGARO*, on the other hand, pointed out that the French radars in Tunisian territory have monitored new Libyan reinforcements.

These reports come to confirm that Tunisia has completely been turned into a colony under the French military presence, and that this foreign military presence on Tunisian territory is directed against Libya — a matter that gives the Libyan people the right to respond to it.

These reports coming from French official sources are clear admissions by the French Government of the existence of military bases on Tunisian soil.

The truth, which does not lend itself to argument, is that this French military presence is not for the protection of the Arab citizens in Tunisia or elsewhere, but is directed at the progressive forces in the Arab homeland, and forms a threat to the sons of the Arab nation — a matter that gives complete legitimacy to the sons of this nation and its dynamic forces to work to repel this danger and to stand up to it with all the means and potentials available.

Official Alleges French Troops in Chad

AB140609 Paris AFP in English 0404 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Rabat, Dec 14 (AFP) — A Libyan official has accused France of transferring troops from French garrisons in the Central African Republic to battle lines in Chad.

Moussa Ibrahim, a press adviser to the Libyan resident secretary (ambassador) in Rabat, made the charge in an interview published Friday by the MOROCCAN NEWS AGENCY (MAP) while stressing "Libya's desire to maintain peace in the region".

"France is now transferring its troops from Central Africa to the front lines between forces of (President) Hissein Habre and the (?national) [words indistinct] backed insurgents led by former (?president) Goukouni Oueddei — Mr Ibrahim was quoted as saying.

The situation in Chad was one of main topics at the just-ended Franco-African summit in Paris attended by Moroccan King Hassan.

MAURITANIA

Colonel Taya Addresses Anniversary Celebrations

LD141252 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] our country yesterday celebrated the first anniversary of the blessed 12 December corrective movement in a happy and enthusiastic atmosphere. The festivities marking this occasion began yesterday morning with a military parade at the Presidential Palace. Yesterday morning also saw the flag-raising ceremony in the presence of Col Maayouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, and members of the Military Committee for National Salvation, the government, members of the diplomatic corps, and other officials.

On this occasion Col Maayouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, addressed the nation with an important speech, in which he presented the broader aspects of the state's political line in all fields. The head of state said that the Military Committee for National Salvation, after restoring to the state its respect and its credibility at home and abroad, and to the citizens their freedom, earnestly endeavors to build a free and independent Mauritania. The head of state referred to the existing political, economic, and social situation in the country since 12 December, 1984. Col Maayouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya described the results of the government's activities during this period, and then he dealt with the program of economic and financial reports and prospects.

At the political level His Excellency the head of state stressed the guaranteeing of basic freedoms and provision of opportunities in order to involve all citizens in the task of national construction. Col Maayouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya said that the second half of 1986 will witness the establishment of democratically-elected institutions that will be entrusted with the administration of conglomerations in the governorates' major towns and Nouakchott district, and thus continue and consolidate the democratic line. He pointed out that the meaning of decentralization should be fully appreciated and its aims should be understood. He pointed out that destructive and negative activities, which are contrary to the laws of the country, must be avoided. Col Maayouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya affirmed that the state desires to see citizens take part democratically in the administration of their private affairs, in an honest and disciplined atmosphere. His Excellency stressed that the country's leadership will erect in this good land an independent and prosperous state, thanks to our belief in God and the unity of our people's action.

CMSN Official Receives PRC Youth Delegation

AB151445 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] The delegation of the PRC National Youth Federation, which arrived in Nouakchott on Friday, continues its visit to our country. Yesterday morning it was received by the permanent secretary of the CMSN [Lieutenant Colonel Diallo Mohamed]. At the end of the audience, the PRC delegation held its first working session with a delegation of the Executive Secretariat for national orientation of the CMSN, and, in conformity with the program, the two delegations went to Rosso yesterday afternoon.

MOROCCO

Romanian Minister On Construction of Ports, Roads

LD131257 Rabat MAP in English 1205 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Rabat, Dec 13 (MAP) — At the end of the tour he undertook to some Moroccan northern towns including Nador, Tangiers, Larache and Tetuan, visiting Romanian Minister of Transports and Telecommunications Vasile Buluca held here Thursday a working session with Moroccan minister of equipment, staff and vocational training, Mohamed Kabbaj.

The two parties explored the perspectives of the Moroccan-Romanian cooperation in line of the contacts the Romanian minister of transports and telecommunications had during his tour with Moroccan officials.

Discussions mainly centred on the sectors of ports, dams, road construction and the organization of training courses.

Earlier Vasile Bulucea was received by Moroccan Premier Mohamed Karim Lamrani. The two parties dealt with the Moroccan-Romanian cooperation in port infrastructures.

Portuguese Agriculture Minister Meets Officials

LD131325 Rabat MAP in English 1213 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Rabat, Dec 13 (MAP) — Visiting Portuguese Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Alvaro Barreto was separately received here Thursday by Moroccan Premier Mohamed Karim Lamrani, Minister of Fisheries and Merchant Navy Bensalem Smili and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Ahmed Cherkaoui.

Discussions dealt mainly with the reinforming of bialteral relations in agriculture and fisheries areas as well as the creation of joint ventures with Moroccan investments in Portugal. Currently, there are 30 joint ventures all located in Morocco.

Barreto then visited the Hassan II Agricultural and Veterinary Institute where he was apprised with the training system of the institute, which trains 100 agricultural cadres each year. The institute, whose teaching personnel is 90 percent Moroccan, trains also a certain number of African students.

A Moroccan-Portuguese joint commission will convene soon to identify the aspects of cooperation between the two countries in different sectors.

Barreto Departs

LD131637 Rabat MAP in English 1246 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Rabat, Dec 13, (MAP) — Portuguese Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food Alvaro Barreto left Morocco earlier this Friday at the end of a two day visit during which he mainly conferred with Moroccan Premier Mohamed Karim Lamrani and Minister of Maritime Fisheries and Merchant Navy Bensalem Smili.

Talks discussed means and ways of giving a new momentum to Moroccan-Portuguese relations.

M. Barreto expressed satisfaction at his "successful" talks with Moroccan officials and said that the purpose of his visit was to reinforce the friendship existing between Morocco and Portugal on the one hand and to draw the balance-sheet of bilateral relations on the other.

He added that the Moroccan-Portuguese joint commission will meet shortly to discuss the aspects of bilateral cooperation sector by sector and prospect new fields of cooperation in the industrial and commercial areas.

Paper Outlines Stance on Franco-African Summit

LD131256 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Rabat, Dec 13 (MAP) — The participation of King Hassan II of Morocco in the French-African summit is of a particular importance especially so as it occurs a year after the Kingdom's withdrawal from the Organization of African Unity (OAU), wrote *AL-ITTIHAD AL-ICHTIRAKI.*

The organ of the Moroccan Socialist Party "The Socialist Union of Popular Forces" which devoted its Thursday editorial to the French African summit and the Sahara issue, recalled the delicate problems submitted to the summit on the political, economic, and social levels and in the first instance, the Sahara issue.

The daily outlined that "if you find in Africa the defenders of separatist theses and the greatest number of countries having recognized the self-proclaimed Sahrawi Republic (SADR), this does not deprive Morocco from its African identity and from its belonging to Africa, and does not prevent it from getting interested in the continent's problems and participating in their settlement".

"African officials," the daily went on, "must realize that their appeal for direct negotiations between Morocco and the separatists (the Algerian-backed guerrilla movement, the Polisario, fighting Morocco for control over the Moroccan Sahara formerly under Spanish rule) cannot bring forth any solution to the problem as the only fair and democratic settlement lies in the organizing of a referendum that Morocco had accepted at the cost of huge sacrifices for the sake of African unity".

The daily then outlined that African leaders must understand Morocco's stand and review their attitudes that have led the OAU to a dead end especially after the admission of the so-called "SADR" in violation of the very charter of the OAU.

The daily finally expressed hope that the French-African summit would provide African leaders with the opportunity to shoulder their responsibility and be aware of the serious consequences of the Sahara issue on Africa.

SUDAN

TMC Chairman Returns From Saudi Arabia

JN141037 Khartoum SUNA in English 0905 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Dec, 14, SUNA — Transitional Military Council "TMC" Chairman Gen 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab returned home yesterday from a four-day official visit to Saudi Arabia where he held talks with Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on bilateral relations and current issues in the Arab arena.

During the visit, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab also performed the minor pilgrimage (ummra) at holy Mecca and visited the grave of prophet Muhammad at Medina.

Saudi Economic Aid Expected

JN141100 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 14 Dec (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council, will submit a detailed report to the council during its meeting today on his talks with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia and his visit to Saudi Arabia from which he returned yesterday. Gen Siwar al-Dhahab described his talks with the Saudi king as successful and constructive. The talks, he said, not only tackled Sudan's problems, but also Arab issues.

The newspaper *AL-SAHAFAH* reported today that the Saudi king is sponsoring a plan to save Sudan's economy. The paper said that the plan will appeal to oil-rich Arab states, frienldy states, and world financial organizations to grant Sudan a large long-term loan at token interest to enable it to surmount its economic problems and enter a phase of productive economic projects.

TMC Briefed on Riyadh Visit

JN141848 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1722 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Dec (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council [TMC], today acquainted the Council with what he knew in terms of Saudi Arabia's understanding of the economic and political circumstances Sudan is experiencing and its principled readiness to support Sudan in all fields.

A responsible source in the TMC explained that during the Council's meeting today, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab submitted a detailed report on his visit to Saudi Arabia last week and noted that the talks with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia dealt with the joint Sudanese-Saudi role in clearing the Arab atmosphere and bringing viewpoints among leaderships closer in a way that ensures the success of the forthcoming Arab summit conference.

The source also explained that the TMC heard a report on the security situation in the country and was reassured about the situation throughout Sudan. The TMC also listened to another report from Major General James Loro, TMC member and chairman of the Transitional Higher Executive Council of the Southern Region [THECSR], on the results of his recent visit to the areas of Bahr al-Ghazal, Upper Nile, and western Equatoria.

The TMC recommended the submission of recommendations, which Maj Gen Loro made to the Council of Ministers in order to discuss them within the framework of the constitutional conference intended to be held soon. The TMC also recommended the convening of a joint session with the Council of Ministers to discuss the situation of the THECSR and the role it should play during the forthcoming phase.

Siwar al-Dhahab Interviewed on Current Topics

JN151532 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1428 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Dec (SUNA) — General Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council [TMC], has asserted his complete rejection of the principle of using force in the name of democracy in order to eliminate political opponents. He said that the transitional authority will firmly and severely deal with any such trend. Siwar al-Dhahab was replying to a question by SUNA in a press interview today on repercussions of the reported emergence in the country of the Islamic Jihad organization, which is said to have distributed leaflets threatening to assassinate rulers and party leaders. It has also been reported that several members of this organization have been arrested.

The TMC chairman explained that he will not permit any quarter whatsoever to formulate for the Sudanese people, who have chosen democracy as a course, a framework removing them from this democracy which they have preferred.

Asked about southern Sudan in light of contacts with Colonel John Garang, Siwar al-Dhahab wondered about Garang's intentions of continuing the war and escalating military operations. He said that Garang has ignored frequent appeals to stop military operations, although the Sudanese Armed Forces have stopped them. Siwar al-Dhahab said that despite statements of good intentions, Garang has continued with his military operations and that these operations are no longer confined to the south but have spread to northern regions. The last of these are the Kurmuk incidents, he said.

Regarding his recent visit to Saudi Arabia, Siwar al-Dhahab said that King Fahd of Saudi Arabia was well aware of the Sudanese economic situation and that he showed a keen desire to cooperate with other Arab leaders in order to back the Sudanese economy.

Regarding party politics in Sudan, Siwar al-Dhahab said: As we know, democracy and anarchy are separated by only a very fine line. However, we are confident that the Sudanese people, who have proven to be worthy of democracy, will avoid anarchy.

Replying to a question on Sudanese-U.S. relations after the U.S. Embassy asked its nationals to leave Khartoum because of the supposed lack of security, Siwar al-Dhahab said: Sudan's relationship with Washington remains the same, and nothing has changed. Regarding security, the U.S. allegation is unrealistic. Security prevails in Sudan, and the government is in full control. In fact, I can say that the Sudanese masses are the safety valve that guarantees security for Khartoum and the rest of the country.

Siwar al-Dhahab added: Best proof of the maintenance of peace and order in Sudan is the fact that Her Royal Highness Princess Anne visited the country some time ago and stayed for more than a week without the need for the usual escort given to VIP's.

Regarding Sudan's relations with the Eastern bloc, Siwar al-Dhahab asserted Sudan's desire to maintain good relations with all countries and peoples as stated in the foreign policy statement which the TMC issued at the beginning of the popular uprising. He said: Acting on the spirit of that statement, Sudan has improved its relations with certain countries and taken steps toward improving and strengthening its relations with Eastern bloc countries. Siwar al-Dhahab announced that a political Sudanese delegation will soon make a tour of Eastern bloc countries in order to strengthen relations with them.

Regarding the transitional period, Siwar al-Dhahab said that the TMC and the provisional government have a task they must perform well. This task is to hand over authority upon the establishment of the Constituent Assembly and the formation of the new government. This is what we are concentrating on now in order to fulfill the trust, he concluded.

Ethiopian Jews Enter Sudan; 'Strict Control' Imposed

LD141431 Kuwait KUNA in English 1114 GMT 4 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Dec 14 (KUNA) — Over one thousand Ethiopian Jews, Falashas, entered Sudan this week in what may be feared as another attempt for an "Operation Moses" under which (?several thousands) were lifted to Israel across Sudanese airspace.

Informed sources here said today strict control has been imposed on the Falashas at "Umrakouba" and "Wad Kouli" refugee camps in Eastern Sudan Gedaref district.

Security authorities in Sudan's Eastern Kassala Province are carefully monitoring and surveilling movements of the Falasha to ensure that they will not be moved secretly out of Sudan, the source added.

In 1983-1984 the defunct regime allowed the movement of Ethiopian Jews to Israel across Sudanese territory and Sudan's former vice president 'Umar al-Tayyib is currently facing trial for his role in theat movement.

Court Proceedings on Falasha Case Continue

JN141918 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1733 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Dec (SUNA) Retired Police General 'Ali Yasin, 23d witness for the procescution and former minister of internal affairs, has said that he sent a message to first defendent 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib in August, 1984, on the issue of the Falasha refugees and the existence of organized networks to transport them to Israel via Sudan within the framework of resettlement. In the message he explained that the Falashas were not refugees and that they used Sudan as a crossing point to Israel. He mentioned several events to prove that, such as the plane which landed in (Al-Shuk) in eastern Sudan and [words indistinct], from which about 1,000 Falashas were transported. The prosecution submitted the message to the court as a prosecution document.

During the court's session this morning, the witness said that he knew about the Falasha issue following the ministry's reception of reports from the Eastern Region on refugees in general and Falashas in particular, adding that the reports said that the Falashas had become a source of trouble for the administrative organ for refugees, that the Falashas were trying to leave Sudan for Israel, and that the Falashas admitted there were sides which encouraged them to come to Sudan in order to be transported to Israel.

The witness also said that under the Geneva Convention and in accordance with the OAU and the political asylum law, refugees are allowed to leave the country in which they reside on the condition that there is a side which will accept them after they obtain a certain card and an entry visa, adding that these refugees are allowed to go to any country except Israel and South Africa.

Retired Police Gen 'Ali Yasin also explained that in the message he asked the first defendant to take a political and security decision regarding the Falashas, adding that the problem of the transportation of Falashas to Israel lies in the fact that such transportation will increase the Zionist entity's manpower and its settlements at the expense of Arab lands and that the Falashas will also be used as an armed defense line against any Arab country, pointing out that he tried his best to obtain a political and security decision from the first defendant, but to no avail. He also said that did not learn of the transportation of Falashas from any official in Sudan, but from the radio and other media. He also denied that defendant Musa Isma'il had informed him of the transportation of Falashas from Geneva [as received].

The court then listened to the 24th witness for the prosecution, a driver in the dissolved security organ, who affirmed that he made 24 trips to transport Falashas from camps in Al-Qadarif to Khartoum airport and from camps in Al-Qadarif to (Al-'Azazah) airport, explaining that he saw foreigners moving Falashas from cars to the airport. The court adjourned its session until tomorrow morning.

Further on Proceedings

JN152012 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1441 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Dec (SUNA) — Testifying on the transportation of Ethiopian Falasha Jews to Israel, the 27th witness for the prosecution told the court here this morning that 1,401,962 Sudanese pounds were withdrawn from the identity cards department account for the establishment of the Blue Nile building [words indistinct].

Brigadier General 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad 'Ali, head of the identity cards department, said that the first defendant informed him that he would start establishing a building for the new organ. [as received] During today's session, the court listened to 'Ali Shamun, former minister of culture and inforamtion and witness for the prosecution, who denied that he knew anything about the transportation of Falashas, adding that after hearing a statement by the Beglian company on transporting Falashas Jews from Khartoum to Brussels, he contacted the first defendant who denied such transportation. Regarding his refusal to answer questions from reporters during his tour of the Gulf region, he said that he did not answer the questions because after the company's statement, he was not sure of the facts concerning this issue.

'Ali Shamun also said that Sudan came under a fierce propaganda campaign during the transportation operations, a fact which embarrassed Sudanese citizens working abroad. The court also listened to Bakri 'Awad, the 25th witness for the prosecution and head of the international news department at SUNA, who explained the duties of the department, as well as its publications and those who receive them, pointing out that the first defendant and other defendants regularly received the special publication.

Colonel Hasan 'Uthman 'Ali, the 28th witness for the prosectuion and officer at the Red Sea intelligence department, submitted to the court a report sent from the department to the director of military intelligence. The report contains information about the suspected activities of some foreign side inside Port Sudan and about the landing of unidentified planes in the (Karasaqua) area. I also contains information about other activities in the township of 'Arusa. The witness also presented a letter from the director of intelligence so that information collected on the movement of suspect foreigners may be discussed. The court will resume its session tomorrow morning to listen to other witnesses.

Former Minister Testifies

JN151038 Khartoum SUNA in English 1014 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Dec. 15 (SUNA) — Former Interior Minister 'Ali Yasin told the court looking into the Falasha case yesterday that the became aware of presence of Falasha in Sudan from reports reaching from the Eastern Region.

He indicated that he had sent several messages to the first defendant warning about the presence of an organized emigration of Falasha to Sudan and their being transported discreetly from Sudan.

But witness Yasin said he failed neither to get replies to his message nor to meet the first defendant himself.

Council of Ministers Changes Sudan's Official Name

JN151521 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT
15 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Dec (SUNA) — The Council of Ministers has instructed all ministries and government departments to use the "Republic of Sudan" in all official letters and transactions. Accordingly, the word "democratic", which was added to the name during the defunct May regime, will be omitted. The Council of Ministers pointed out that this move complies with the provisions of the Sudanese Constitution during the transitional period.

TMC Chairman Receives Kuwaiti Amir Message

JN151519 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1419 GMT
15 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Dec (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council, has received a written message from Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah in reply to a message he sent him on promoting cooperation between the two fraternal countries. Kuwaiti Ambassador 'Abdallah al-Sar handed the message to Gen Siwar al-Dhahab when he received him this morning.

In a statement, the ambassador explained that during the meeting they held consultations on bolstering Sudanese-Kuwaiti relations and that he affirmed to Gen Siwar al-Dhahab that Kuwaiti officials are eager to strengthen the good relations between the two fraternal countries.

Bahr al-Ghazal Governor Cited on Elections

JN141052 Khartoum SUNA in English 1047 GMT
14 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Dec. 14, SUNA — It is not possible to speculate whether the elections will be held or not in the light of the prevailing security situation in Bahr al-Ghazal Region, the military governor of the region told a daily here.

The governor of Bahr al-Ghazal administrative area Mr. Albino Akol explained that it is not an easy job to speculate the possibility of holding the elections in the region due to escalation of the civil war and the raid by the nomads which hamper the stability of more than half a million people living in eastern Bahr al-Ghazal Province.

Akol in statement to the daily *AL-SAHAFAH* published here today said that despite the scarcity of the activities by the rebels led by Col. Garang the nature of the guerrilla war will make it inaccurate to decide on the affair of holding the elections in the region.

The election will be held if peace is maintained or the two parties "the government and the rebels" agreed on understanding formula or truce, Mr. Akol explained further.

If partial elections was held in secure areas "towns" where there is no rebel activities the troops of Col. Garang might control other areas and their effect will be inevitable, the governor straightened it.

Akol suggested several proposals among them basically what he called the military option, the process of using the military convoys to guard all stages of the elections. This will be an inevitable alternative if the other means become useless and inpractical, he said.

General elections are scheduled to be accomplished throughout the country before April 26 when the transitional period will expire and an elected constituent assembly meet to form a civilian government.

New Party To Continue 'May Regime'

NC151406 Paris AFP in English 1333 GMT
15 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Dec 15 (AFP) — A new political party was launched here last night as the successor of the Sudanese Socialist Union, the sole party allowed under ex-president Ja'far Numayri which was dissolved when he was ousted last April.

The birth of the National Socialist Alliance was announced at a press conference by 'Uthman Abu al-Qasim, who was minister of cooperation and rural development under Marshal Numayri in the early 1970's.

He said it was a continuation of the "May regime", the term supporters of President Numayri gave his administration, which took power in May 1969.

He also said the "May revolution" was not dead. On the contrary, the April military coup had cleansed it of the "impurities" introduced when other political parties were absorbed into the Numayri regime in 1978.

"The National Socialist Alliance has no new thought but is only a continuation of the May revolution," Mr. Al-Qasim said. He added that its leaders believed in a multi-party system which "leads to democracy", but described the present system as "sophist".

Also present at the press conference were former officials of the Sudanese Socialist Union. Speakers demanded the release of political prisoners but did not say whether they wanted the return of Marshal Numayri, who is in exile in neighbouring Egypt.

Officials Comment on 'Hostile' Party

JN151900 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1733 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Dec (SUNA) — Interior Minister General 'Abbas Madani has demanded additional specific and urgent information about the activities of the remnants of the defunct regime in order to take appropriate measures in the next few days. In a statement to the press today, the minister commented on the Ministry of Interior's role in containing the activities of the remnants of the defunct regime, especially after these remnants have begun to form hostile organizations. He added that the birth of the so-called National Socialist Alliancewas recently announced, which adopts the principles of the dissolved SSU as its political line. He also said that the competent authorities at his ministry have for some time followed up these activities and have collected information defining the dimensions of those suspect activities.

Regarding the formation of the organization, Attorney General 'Umar 'Abd al-'Ati announced that participants in the organization will be subject to punishment by the state security law, which is still in effect. He also described their activities as a suspect move to undermine the uprising, adding that the government should not keep silent about it. The attorney general also explained that these suspect activities began a long time ago and that he drew the attention of the security sides to the seriousness of this issue after receiving special information, pointing out that the security sides kept saying that these activities were being following until a hostile organization is formed.

The attorney general also expressed the belief that the current activities of the remnants of the defunct regime are a link in a series of activities and that, as a civilian, he believes that the security sides did not take reasonable measures, although some names were repeated several times during followup operations. He called for a quick end to the problem, pointing out that the national security council should be called for an urgent meeting in order to make an appropriate decision in this regard, adding that this will not preven thim from discussing the problem with the interior minister to take urgent steps to contain the situation.

Dr Amin Makki Madani, minister of construction and housing and acting minister of culture and information, described the announcement during a press conference last night of the formation of the so-called National Socialsit Alliance as an implicit return to the dissolved SSU and as a move against the April uprising. He also refuted statements made during the press conference that the May regime is still continuing and that there is no April revolution agaisnt the May regime as baseless. He also described their statements that political parties and the Alliance of National Forces for the Salvation of the Homeland are unacceptable to the Sudanese people as baseless. He also described the Democratic National Alliance as a form of dictatorship and said its members do not represent free will.

The so-called Democratic National Alliance held a press conference last night. 'Utman Abu al-Qasim, who is a leader in the Alliance and who was a minister in the defunct regime, spoke at the press conference, saying that their organization thinks that the May regime is still in power. He also attacked the current democracy and described it as a democracy of the corrupt. The reporters withdrew from the press conference before the end.

Madani Orders Arrest of Party Leaders

JN161058 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Except] Khartoum, 16 Dec (SUNA) — The security authorities yesterday started arresting leaders and members of the so-called National Socialist Alliance, remnants of the defunct regime. The leaders of the alliance held a press conference the day before yesterday in which they called for the return of the SSU and the release of the so-called May revolutionaries.

This matter was considered an act hostile to the revolution and the democratic march.

In a statement to *AL-SAHAFAH* published today, Interior Minister General 'Abbas Madani disclosed that his departments have been following the activities of that organization, which is hostile to democracy, for a long time, monitoring the moves of all its leaders and members. The interior minister added that he had ordered the security organs to arrest the leaders of the organization whether or not they took part in the press conference.

The interior minister disclosed that a number of the organization's leaders, including Dr 'Uthman Abu al-Qasim, who was minister of cooperation during the rule of ousted President Ja'far Numayri, had left the country the day after their press conference. The interior minister added that his competent organs will take the necessary legal steps to bring the defectors back to the country.

NUP To 'Freeze' Membership in Alliance

JN141801 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1718 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 14 Dec (SUNA) — The National Unionist Party [NUP] has decided to freeze its membership in the Alliance of National Forces for the Salvation of the Homeland. In a statement issued today, the NUP explained that for the past nine months since the outbreak of the popular uprising it has tried its best to help the Alliance in adopting national policies and achieving the goals of the April revolution. The statement added that events have proved that the Alliance's policies are hampering achieving an effective revoltuionary change in order to eliminate traces of the defunct May regime, try its symbols, and protect democracy in accordance with the draft laws which the NUP had submitted.

'Alert Equipment' Discovered in Numayri's Office

JN160940 Khartoum SUNA in English 0925 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Dec 16 SUNA — A committee investigating the corruption in the Friendship Hall disclosed high advanced alert equipment that comprise monitoring and advanced alarm apparatus in the offices of ousted President Numayri in the Friendship Hall. The committee has also unveiled some cannons and military defences beside a helicopter perching on the roof of the Friendship Hall.

Head of the inquiry committee Kamal Hamad Annil affirmed that the equipment was planted by American experts. Hamad added that the committee has discovered secret exits winding up to the roof in case of surprise event where a helicopter waits.

A luxurous sleeping room is conjoined to the escapee Numayri's office beside 2 hall store [as received] used by ousted president and his aides, head of the committee stated. Hamad voiced that he would urge an economic technical committee to round up the financial return of the store which had been misused by deposed president since 1977 and till the date of April uprising.

Verdict on Former Numayri Aide Challenged

JN151050 Khartoum SUNA in English 1020 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Dec (SUNA) — On behalf of the attorney general, Chairman of the Prosecution Advocate Mahmud Abkam yesterday impeached the verdict issued by the court which tried convict Baha' al-Din Idris, deposed president assistant for presidency affairs, daily *AL-SAHAFAH* issued today said. The daily went on to say that the impeachment is based on the incompatibility of the verdict with the crimes he committed. It is worth noting that the court had sentenced Diris to 10 years imprisonment and five million Sudanese pounds fine.

PLO To Move Some Institutions to Sudan

JN160920 Khartoum SUNA in English 0910 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Rabi' Thani 3/Dec 16 (SUNA) — Palestine Liberation Organization PLO will shortly move some [of] its institutions to Sudan, announced PLO representative to Khartoum Abu Raja'i. Sudan's willingness to host PLO seat will be translated into fact in the near future, he said.

He told SUNA that PLO four centres will be in Tunis,Baghdad, Khartoum and Sanaa. He said the PLO headquarters would remain in Tunisia.

Samuel Aru Receives Al-Funj Area Delegation

JN141817 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1717 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Dec (SUNA) — Deputy Prime Minister Samuel Aru has received a memorandum from citizens in the Al-Funj mountains in the Central Region on the impact of the threat posed by the John Garang forces to the area. This took place during his meeting here today with the Al-Funj General Union delegation, which asked the officials for relief aid and foodstuffs, as well as for an appropriate climate for schools in the area.

The deputy prime minister promised the delegation to discuss the contents of the memorandum with the competent authorities in order to meet the demands.

TUNISIA

Mzali Receives USSR Navy Chief Chernavin

LD131659 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali has received Admiral Vladimir Chernavin, Soviet deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the Soviet Navy, who said that the discussions dealt with the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and the situation prevailing in the Mediterranean region and a number of questions of mutual interest. He stated that the visit of the Soviet delegation to Tunisia will undoubtedly consolidate the distinguished relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries that have existed for decades. He conveyed his warmest wishes to President Habib Bourguiba, wishing him good health and long life and prosperity and progress to the Tunisian people.

The meeting was attended by National Defense Minister Slaheddine Baly and by Habib Fedhila, chief of staff of the National Navy, as well as the Soviet charge d'affaires in Tunis.

Total of 31,588 Tunisians Expelled From Libya

LD151602 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] The number of Tunisians expelled from Libya during the period between noon on Saturday 7 December 1985 to noon on Saturday 14 December 1985, according to the General Administration of National Security's figures, has reached 32. Thus the total number of Tunisians expelled from Libya since the begining of the Libyan authorities' expulsion operation has reached 31,588 persons.

ETHIOPIA

PDRY Chairman Said in Ethiopia to Mediate With Sudan

GF131034 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0645 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Dec (WAKH) — Press reports in the UAE said today that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, is currently making an unannounced visit to Ethiopia.

Quoting Sudanese political sources, the newspaper said that the goal of this unannounced visit is to settle the differences between Ethiopia and Sudan, to settle border disputes between them, and to find a settlement to the problem of John Garang's forces which are using Ethiopia as a base.

Eritrean Leader Cited on Settlement Plans

LD141921 Kuwait KUNA in English 1609 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Beirut, Dec 14 (KUNA) — An Eritrean leader Saturday announced that his forces will escalate armed resistance of Ethiopian occupation to force Addis Ababa to enter serious and unconditional negotiations for a peaceful settlement to the Eritrean problem.

Secretary General of the Eritrean Liberation Front, Unified Organization (ELF-UO) Osman Saleh Sabbe told KUNA in a contact from Riyadh that a number of Arab and European countries including Saudi Arabia and Italy were exerting efforts to prepare for Eritrean-Ethiopian negotiations.

Sabbe, meanwhile, said that ELF-UO forces have attacked an Ethiopian military force in Umhajar area across the Eritrean borders.

The Ethiopian unit suffered heavy human losses in addition to the destruction of two tanks and three military vehicles, he elaborated.

Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre to unite his front and Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front led by Isayas Afwarke had failed and noted in this respect that the ELF had tabled a written plan for unifying the two fronts. [sentence as received]

On the other hand, the EPLF representative in Abu Dhabi Osman Mohammed Omar said that front forces had launched a successful operation inside Eritrean capital of Asmara. He told KUNA that the operation, which he described as "daring and successful," destroyed 30 vehicles.

Eritrean Front Claims Attack in Asmara

AB151217 Paris AFP in English 1153 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Mogadishu, Dec 15 (AFP) — Guerrillas fighting for independence in Ethiopia's Eritrea Province today said they destroyed 30 trucks in an attack Tuesday in the provisional capital, Asmara.

A communique released by the office here of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) said special commando units carried out the 30-minute sabotage operation at Asmara's Menaharion truck depot.

The statement said it was the second attack in nearly 10 months inside the tight security cordon placed around Asmara by the Ethiopia military.

Last March the guerrillas penetrated the Asmara Air Force base and destroyed 33 planes, it said.

KENYA

Government, NRA Fail To Sign Agreement

JN141106 Khartoum SUNA in English 1051 GMT 4 Dec 85

[Text] Nairobi, Dec. 14, SUNA — Ugandan Government and the National Resistance Army "NRA" failed to sign the peace agreement, scheduled to be signed here yesterday.

The military Council Chairman Gen. Tito Okello arrived here yesterday and met with Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi who chaired the peace talks since August 26.

Later yesterday Okello and Moi were joined by Yoweri Museveni, leader of "NRA" who arrived here earlier.

All the delegations following the end of the of the meeting refused to comment while the Ugandan interior minister told the reporters that the two sides will meet to negotiate tomorrow.

An informed source told "SUNA" that the draft agreement contains all the National Resistance Army demands but it appears that the basic point of the conflict is the government demand to Mr. Museveni to dissolve the administration that he formed in the areas occupied by his army in south western Uganda.

UGANDA

'Panic' Grips Kampala Following Rumors of Road Closure

EA131932 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1443 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Kampala, 13 Dec (SUNA) — Panic gripped the inhabitants of Kampala at noon today. Business houses, banks, and government offices closed and people rushed to residential areas from the center of the city [word indistinct] after the spread of rumors in the city that forces of the Uganda National Resistance Movement of Yoweri Museveni had closed the Kampala-Entebbe road.

The rumors said that forces of FUNA [Former Ugandan National Army] movement had detained Lieutenant-General

Tito Okello, chairman of the ruling Military Council in Uganda, at Entebbe Airport, while he was on the point of leaving for Nairobi today to sign the peace agreement.

However, reports from (?Nairobi) confirmed the arrival there this morning of Lt Gen Tito Okello. However, the expected meeting between a delegation of the resistance movement and the ruling Military Council has not yet taken place. The signing of the agreement was expected to take place at 1000 today.

Information reaching SUNA in the Ugandan capital says the reason for the rumors was misinterpretation of search operations carried out by the government forces in some parts of Kampala and along the road to Entebbe and the detention of some suspected elements.

Spokesman Appeals to Citizens

EA131855 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1728 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Kampala, 13 Dec (SUNA) — A spokesman of the Ugandan Military Council today appealed to the citizens of the capital, Kampala, and adjacent areas to resume their normal life and to ignore rumors seeking to stir up confusion at a time when the country is awaiting the results of the Nairobi negotiations.

The spokesman explained in a statement he issued this afternoon that the alarm that prevailed in Kampala and led to the closure of business houses and banks and the stoppage of normal life in the city was the result of unfounded rumors circulated by habitual criminals and looters with the aim of creating circumstances that would help them practice their favorite hobby.

The Ugandan spokesman said that what had led to the spreading of the rumors was the halting of traffic by the traffic police on the Kampala-Entebbe road rollowing a road accident, which coincided with extensive operations carried out by the government forces searching for arms and suspects in the Makindye area, 2 miles south of the capital. The statement said that during this search operation, huge quantities of arms and about 5,000 rounds of ammunition were detected and a number of persons apprehended.

Prolonged Firing Heard Near Kampala

AB160836 Paris AFP in English 0824 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Kampala, Dec 16 (AFP) — Prolonged firing was heard early today near Bulenga, seven miles (10 kilometres) west of Kampala.

The source of the shooting was not known, but local people said government soldiers manning a road-block at Busega, five miles (eight kilometres) from Kampala, seemed panic-stricken when it began. More government troops were later seen walking towards Bulenga as sporadic gunfire could still be heard coming from the town, which is on the road to Mityana.

Commuters from the area failed to turn up for work, but in the centre of Kampala it was business as usual. Western and southwestern areas of Kampala are held by the opposition National Resistance Army of former Defence Minister Yoweri Museveni.

Kampala To Be Policed by Rival Factions

EA151509 Nairobi SUNDAY STANDARD in English 15 Dec p 4

[Unattributed item appearing under "Letter From Kampala" section, headlined "Kampala Is Balkanized"]

[Excerpts] Uganda's Military Council has decided to chart out the country's capital Kampala, among the four fighting groups for purposes of keeping law and order. The groups are the Uganda National Liberation Army (NLA), Uganda Freedom Movement (UFM), Uganda National Rescue Front (UNRF) and Former Uganda National Army during the deposed dictator Idi Amin's days (FUNA).

These groups had reached an understanding with the military government and are already represented on the military council, the supreme policy and decision-making organ in the country.

The capital has been divided into four parts and each group has already taken over the enforcement of law and order in their respective areas in liaison with the regular police, especially at night.

This followed [an] uncontrolled spate of murders, armed robbery, destruction of property, and other atrocities by men wearing military uniforms, which are usually referred to as indisciplined elements of the army.

A total collapse of security in Kampala since the July coup has, therefore, become a matter of concern to the government which accused deposed President Milton Obote's government of having failed to protect the lives and property of Ugandans.

The government in Kampala, therefore, must have been reluctant to give away the task of keeping law and order of the city to the former guerrilla forces.

This was an admission of the government's failure to provide security, but then if this responsibility could be carried out jointly by the other forces, then the inhabitants would support the government which could guarantee their security and that of their property.

But the sharing out of the responsibility of providing security in the capital has been criticised by an independent English language weekly *TOPIC*.

In an editorial commentary entitled "Kampala Turned Into Beirut?" the weekly stated: These developments of Balkanising the capital city into military holdings to the so called fighting forces might look harmless now, but could turn out to be very dangerous sooner than later.

CAMEROON

Financing Agreements Signed With France

AB151245 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Relations between France and Cameroon are excellent. In fact, the two countries today signed five financing agreements totaling about 4.5 billion CFA francs. The money will be used to finance, among other projects, the seventh phase of the rice project in the Nome Upper Valley, the last phase of the modernization project of the Eseka-Malombe railroad, the rehabilitation of the southeast-Benou section, and the preliminary studies for rationalizing a fishing project at Maga. The rest is earmarked for the studies for defining the third phase of the development program of the (?Openmund Valley of Logone) Authority, the extension of a number of urban telephone networks, and the extension and installation of telephone exchanges.

Cameroon was represented by the minister of planning and territorial development, Sadou Hayatou, and France by Pierre Marcel, the head of the French mission for cooperation and director of the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation.

Burundi, Rwanda Leaders Make Stopover

AB151208 Yaounde Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Two African heads of state made a technical stopover in Garoua, the northern provincial capital, yesterday. Presidents Juvenal Habyarimana of Rwanda and Jean-Baptiste Bagaza of Burundi flew in from Paris where they attended the 12th session of the Franco-African summit. They were met at the airport by North Provincial Governor (Francois Yakondi). In two separate press declarations, the two African leaders appreciated the hospitality of the Cameroonian Government and people.

SWAPO Leader Arrives in Yaounde on Visit

AB160847 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
0600 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Cameroon has always listened to the South African people who are victims to the hideous apartheid policy by which a white minority illegally occupies Namibia and practices an inhuman policy of alienation and bondage over a majority legitimately aspiring to freedom. It is within the framework of this active and permanent participation in the search for ways and means that are likely to hasten the process of total and unconditional liberation of Namibia in conformity with the United Nations plan defined in Resolution 435 that Cameroon has invited Mr Sam Nujoma, the SWAPO leader, to pay a visit to our country.

President Sam Nujoma, who arrived in Yaounde yesterday evening, was welcomed on arrival at the airport by Foreign Minister William Eteki Mboumoua. The SWAPO leader will have important discussion with the Cameroonian authorities at a time when the United Nations General Assembly has just decided to convene during the first half of 1986 an international conference on the situation in southern Africa.

CHAD

Relations With Algeria Said To Be Improving

AB140846 Paris AFP in French 0738 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Algiers, 14 Dec (AFP) — Chadian President Hissein Habre will make a technical stopover in Algiers on Saturday en route to Ndjamena, after attending the France-Africa summit in Paris, it was learned on Friday evening from a Chadian source in Algiers. According to the same source, President Hissein Habre will hold talks with the Algerian head of state, President Chadli Bendjedid. However, no information has been obtained from Algerian sources on the visit.

The relations between Algeria and the authorities now in power in Chad have improved over the past few months, after experiencing a long period of tension during which Algiers had supported the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) of Goukouni Oueddei. The deterioration of the Algerian-Libyan relations, following the signing of treaty uniting the Moroccan and Libyan states in August 1984, had favored the rapprochement between Chad and Algeria which has called for a reconciliation between all the Chadians. Moreover, a special envoy of President Chadli Bendjedid to President Hissein Habre stated in early November that his country considers that "there is a government in Ndjamena that represents Chad." Aissa Brahim, Algeria's ambassador to Niamey, specified at the end of the discussions he held with President Hissein Habre that the relations between the two countries "are to develop positively in the weeks ahead."

Talks Between Ndjamena, Opponents To Resume

AB151052 Paris AFP in French 0952 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Ndjamena, 15 Dec (AFP) — The negotiations toward national reconciliation between a Chadian Government delegation and two opposition factions, which began in early December in Libreville and then were interrupted, will resume very shortly, Chadian President Hissein Habre announced on Saturday evening.

In a statement he made upon his arrival in Ndjamena following the 12th France-Africa summit, which ended in Paris on Friday, Mr Habre indicated that the negotiations, which began between a Chadian Government delegation, led by the minister of foreign affairs, Gouara Lassou, and the Chadian Democratic Front and the Chadian Action for Unity and Socialism (FDT, and Actus — opposed to Ndjamena), were interrupted for scheduling reasons, notably because of the France-Africa summit for which Gouara Lassou had accompanied President Habre.

"We will resume these negotiations very shortly," Mr Habre indicated, recalling, however, that Gouara Lassou is still in Paris now, where he is taking part in the conference to prepare for the summit of heads of state of francophone countries scheduled for next February in the French capital. Mr Habre added that the first session of the Libreville negotiations between the Chadian warring factions had "helped to make great progress."

GUNT Denounces Habre Participation in Paris Summit

AB132125 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Communique issued in Bardai on 12 December by the office of the president of the Transitional National Union Government, GUNT]

[Text] Having learned about the holding of the 12 France-Africa summit with the participation of the leader of the rebel clique of Ndjamena, Hissein Habre, the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] wants to make the following clarifications:

First, Hissein Habre represents only himself and the usurpative band he heads. He can, therefore, in no way speak on behalf of the Chadian people at any level whatsoever;

Secondly, the GUNT, born out of the historic consensus that emerged from the Lagos Conference [words indistinct] throughout the Chadian territory, is the only legitimate representative of the Chadian masses and the Chadian state;

Thirdly, in the opinion of the great majority of the Chadian people, the natural and acceptable forum for discussing the Chadian conflict is the OAU under the basis of its own resolutions and at the initiative of brother African heads of state;

Fourthly, the GUNT is now more than ever determined to pursue the liberation struggle and warns France against any military intervention for intimidation. Nothing can stop the just struggle of the Chadian people against fascism and dictatorship.

Issued in Bardai on 12 December 1985 by the GUNT

Bardai Radio Reports on Situation in Southern Chad

AB141505 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Summary] "Here is military information:" The agents of the National Liberation Army [ANL] operating in the southern part of the country have just brought to the attention of the national and international public the situation prevailing there, especially in the region around the town of Moundou. The situation in Logone Occidental in general and particularly in Ndjamena is characterized by reinforcement of soldiers and materials. According to our military correspondent, this situation is due to the new tactics adopted by the ANL commandos. "Colonel Kotiga's troops are now determined to extend their operations to the centers of some towns in the southern part of the country." As for us, we add that most of the enterprises operating in Moundou are affected by the war being waged by the ANL troops to liberate the country, and which denies the allegations by our enemies that the situation in the south is gradually returning to normal. "It is now up to the investors meeting in Geneva to draw the necessary lesson from the war situation prevailing there."

GABON

Resident Burkinabe Nationals Asked To Meet Official

AB132100 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] All Burkinabe nationals living in Gabon are requested to meet Comrade Jean-Baptiste (Isigbo) , the officer in charge of missions at the Presidency of Burkina Faso, who is in Gabon for a contact mission with them. Two meetings are envisaged. The first will take place tomorrow at exactly 1500 at the Principal School in the [name indistinct] quarter behind the hospital. The second is scheduled to take place in Port Gentil on Monday, 16 December 1985. It will take place at the Burkinabe Administrative [word indistinct] in Port Gentil. The comrades of other areas are requested to send two representatives to Libreville for this meeting, if possible.

ZAIRE

Chadian UNIR Delegation Ends 3-day Visit

AB151748 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1300 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 14 Dec [date as received] (AZAP) — Citizen Mpinga Kasenda, first vice president of the Permanent Bureau of the MPR Central Committee, on Saturday received a Chadian delegation from the Central Committee of the National Union for Independence and Revolution [UNIR] which came to pay a courtesy call on him.

This delegation, which has been in Kinshasa since Thursday, came to brief citizen Mpinga on the purpose of their mission to Zaire, which consists in making contacts with the Chadian community living in Kinshasa and to explain the current political situation in Chad as well as the amnesty recently decreed by President Hissein Habre inviting all Chadian refugees to return home.

Kadjangala Robert, member of the Executive Bureau of the UNIR Central Committee and first commissioner for orientation, information, and mass organization who led the delegation, told reporters that his stay in Kinshasa has enabled him to organize his compatriots living in Kinshasa into the UNIR, their national party. The first vice president of the Permanent Bureau of the Central Committee and his guests also envisaged the possibility of exchanging experience and delegations between the two parties.

The UNIR delegation leaves Kinshasa Saturday afternoon for Ndjamena after a 3-day visit.

BENIN

Kerekou Returns From France-Africa Summit, Comments

AB152155 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Our great comrade-in-arms, President Mathieu Kerekou, returned home a while ago at 1630 at the head of an important delegation to the 12th summit of heads of state of France and Africa which has ended in Paris.

This is what our great comrade-in-arms had to say to our reporter on arrival at the airport:

[Begin Kerekou recording] At the 12th summit of heads of state of France and Africa which the delegation of our party and our revolutionary state attended in Paris, economic, political, and socioeconomic issues were our major preoccupations. This is not surprising when one knows that some parts of our continent are confronted with serious political problems, especially in South Africa, Namibia, Western Sahara, and Chad.

Thus, concerning economic issues, during our exchange of views, we laid special emphasis on the following topics: the excessive weight of the external debts on our respective countries; the continuous decline in prices of our raw materials; the difficulties encountered in financing our economic projects; and the handicap to selling our goods that has resulted from the protectionist measures taken by industrialized countries.

Concerning political issues, we examined the dramatic situation prevailing in South Africa. It will easily be understood why the conference expressed satisfaction over the economic and political sanctions taken by France against the South African apartheid regime. Concerning the issue of apartheid, we appealed to the international community to take more concrete steps in the future, and especially during the upcoming conference thath will be held in 1986 under the auspices of the United Nations concerning sanctions against the minority racist regime of Pretoria. We also analyzed the deplorable situations in Namibia, Chad, and Western Sahara, and reaffirmed Africa's and the international community's position as expressed in the various resolutions adopted by the OAU and the United Nations.

Generally, the 12th summit of heads of state of Africa and France was crowned with success both at the level of participation by member-countries and the awakening of the collective conscience regarding the abominable issue of the external debts of our countries and the world economic crisis. [end recording]

BURKINA FASO

Ivorian Ministers Meet With Sankara, Comment

AB151515 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Excerpts] The comrade chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and president of Burkina Faso [Captain Thomas Sankara] this morning received in audience Balla Keita and General Ndaw, the Ivorian ministers of education and higher education and of security and territorial administration, respectively.

At the end of their audience, the two ministers told the press about the purpose of their mission:

[Begin recording] [Keita] It is not the first time the president of Burkina Faso has granted me an audience. I have come to Burkina Faso several times and I have had the opportunity to hold talks here in Burkina Faso and also in Yamoussoukro with President Thomas Sankara. Today my elder brother, the minister of internal security, and I have come here within the framework of the fraternal friendly relations between Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast to hold talks on several issues of common interest.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Minister, you are accompanied by the minister of internal security and we know that the last summit of the Entente Council which was held in Yamoussoukro concerned security problems in the member-countries. Can you tell us whether you discussed security problems with the chairman of the CNR and president of the Republic of Burkina Faso?

[Keita] We have a saying that when the head is present, the knee cannot wear the hat. Since my elder brother, General Ndaw, who is in charge of security, is present, he is in a better position to answer this question.

[Ndaw] I thank my younger brother, Balla, for the remarks he made just now on the contacts we have had since our arrival in Burkina. As you must have observed, Minister Balla Keita has come to Burkina Faso on several occasions. As far as I am personally concerned, my timetable and problems peculiar to my department have prevented me from having contacts with my Burkinabe counterpart. Today, however, these circumstances have changed and I believe this is the reason for my presence here. I am here to strengthen our relations and promote interdepartmental exchanges for the benefit of our two countries. [end recording]

Diplomat Says Sankara Visit to Paris Possible

AB131745 Paris AFP in French 1623 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Paris, 13 Dec (AFP) — President Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso who, in spite of the invitation extended to him, did not attend the France-Africa summit which ends Friday in Paris, may come to the French capital soon, it was learned from Burkinabe diplomatic sources.

"The possibility of the president coming to Paris within a few days cannot be ruled out," Amadou Pitroipa, charge d'affaires at the Burkinabe Embassy in Paris told AFP, when he was asked about such a possibility. President Mitterrand has frequent letter-writing contacts with the Burkinabe leader, it was learned from informed French sources.

"President Sankara has a very close friendship with Mr Mitterrand," Mr Pitroipa stressed, rejecting reports that Mr Sankara refused to go to France following the recent visit to Ouagadougou by Libyan leader Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

"Col al-Qadhdhafi also went to Dakar, Accra, and Bamako," he said, denying "rumors" that the leader of the Libyan revolution had promised Burkina Faso financial assistance amounting to more than the Fr300 million France gives to Burkina Faso.

"President Sankara attended the 1983 France-Africa summit in Vittel to assess the contents of these meetings, which did not live up to our expectations," the charge d'affaires stated. Mr Sankara did not, however, participate in the Bujumbura summit in 1984.

The charge d'affaires did not rule out the future participation of Burkina Faso, a French-speaking West African country, if the subject matter of the France-Africa summits are changed.

GHANA

Accra Radio Reports U.S. Decision To Withhold Aid

AB132050 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] The United States has formally announced its decision to withhold aid to Ghana in 1986. A note verbally addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by the U.S. Embassy in Accra stated that the review of American assistance to Ghana has been taken as a result of the recent decision to expel four American diplomats working in Ghana for indulging in activities unacceptable and not conducive to good relations between them. The United States subsequently retaliated by expelling four Ghanaian diplomats working in the Ghana mission in Washington.

In accordance with the decision, the United States has nullified an anticipated increase over and above the $8 million announced at the Consultative Group meeting. According to the note, the additional funds and commodities will be allocated to other countries in Africa. As an additional punitive measure, Ghana ceases to be a candidate to be considered to share in the allocation of additional U.S. resources. The United States has also decided to suspend negotiations now nearing completion in the $5.1 million commodity import program for Ghana.

At the Consultative Group meeting in Paris last month, the U.S. announced an increase of U.S. aid in the 1986 financial year to Ghana of $8.3 million in new obligations on either a grant basis or highly concessional loan terms. Those commitments will still stand. The note added that the United States will be prepared to respond favorably to requests from Ghana for emergency aid related to natural disasters such as major food shortage.

U.S. Decision Criticized

AB141406 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Commentary by Kwaku Sesa Johnson]

[Text] That the United States Administration was considering withholding aid to Ghana following the exposure of CIA undercover activities in the country and the events which followed did not come as a surprise to followers of the policy of the Reagan administration. It could be read clearly on the wall and was considered a certainty that the administration would try a few antics. Those probably taken by surprise by the U.S. decision are people who feel, and perhaps wrongly nurse the notion, that the good and healthy relations that have developed between the two countries over the last 2 years could have held the Americans back.

The wishes of the United States contained in yesterday's note verbal [as heard] that quotes the U.S. Government will be prepared to respond favorably to requests from the Government of Ghana for emergency aid related to natural disasters such as major food shortages is rather interesting not that it is new but it further reinforces a contradictory attitude of the American Government. It is a clear manifestation of how some countries go to the aid on others in times of need, not out of genuine sympathy but for propaganda purposes. It has been said over and over again and it should be repeated here that what Ghana needs is aid to the country to help generate production to forestall the kind of emergency situation which the U.S. envisages. Humaneness should be demonstrated at all times and not only during a period of crisis.

The declaration of sanctions against Ghana by the U.S. poses a kind of worry for the country which needs some foreign economic assistance to propel the economic recovery program. At the same time, we insist on the kind of economic cooperation that is mutually beneficial to our country. The use of aid as coversive weapon smacks clearly of the big brother attitude which has become an anathema in today's world where there is so much talk of understanding, cooperation, and respect for each other. Once again, the message is clear that the defense and maintenance of Ghana's sovereignty and independence depends solely on the ability of the Ghanaians to work for increased production and meaningful self-sufficiency. It is only when this is achieved that the country can withstand and resist any kind of economic arm-twisting and coercion from any quarter whatsover. This is the task that must be embraced by all. Guaranteeing our independence rests solely on every individual Ghanaian.

Iranian Delegation Arrives to Deliver Message

AB140821 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] A six-member delegation from Islamic Republic of Iran arrived in Accra yesterday to deliver a special message from the Iranian president, Mr 'Ali Khamene'i, to the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings. The contents of the message were not disclosed but the Iranian (?state) deputy minister for foreign affairs, Mr Mohammad Besharati, told newsmen at the airport that the visit is intended to strengthen the cordial relations between Iran and Ghana. The delegation, which includes the director general of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will hold discussions with various ministries including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The delegation was met at the airport by the Iranian charge d'affaires in Ghana, Mr S.S. Karigani.

Rawlings Receives Message

AB142055 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings] today received a special message from President 'Ali Khamene'i of Iran. The contents of the message were not disclosed, but they are believed to center on bilateral relations between the two countries. The message was delivered by a five-man delegation led by the first deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Besharati.

Speaking to newsmen later, Mr Besharati said Iran is ready to supply oil to Ghana on favorable conditions under an agreement signed in Iran recently between the two countries.

GUINEA

Conte Supports Cooperation With Sierra Leone

AB130923 Conakry Domestic Service in French
0645 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Because of our historical bonds and the brotherhood and friendship between us, Sierra Leone is just like Guinea, head of state General Lansana Conte said on Thursday while receiving Her Excellency Mrs Mariam Kamara, the Sierra Leonean ambassador to Guinea.

Mrs Kamara met with him in order to convey the sincere thanks of General Joseph Momoh, the new Sierra Leonean president. Gen Momoh's message was in reply to a friendly congratulatory message sent to him by the head of state in the wake of his election. Once again Mrs Kamara reiterated the willigness of her country's authorities to strengthen and deepen the relations of cooperation between the two countries. She expressed satisfaction over the fraternal atmosphere in which she is working, and thanked President Lansana Conte for this.

Speaking on the policy of peace and quest for the happiness of the people ushered in by the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN], the head of state said that the Guinean Government is determined to broaden cooperation with the Sierra Leonean Government. He charged Mrs Mariam Kamara to convey his friendly greetings to his brother, Joseph Momoh, as well as the desire of the Guinean Government to join hands with the Sierra Leonean Government in accelerating the progress and prosperity of the people of our subregion.

The audience took place in the presence of Captain Abdourahmane Diallo, member of the CMRN, ambassador and chief of state protocol, and Joseph Adama (Loti) and Diallo Bangoura, permanent secretary and chief of protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, respectively.

Head of State Receives Cuban Cooperation Official

AB131113 Conakry Domestic Service in French
0645 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Yesterday at 1232, the head of state, General Lansana Conte, received (Leftes) Oliva Perez, vice president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation [name and title as heard], who led the Cuban delegation on 8 December 1985 to the meeting of the Guinea-Cuba Grand Joint Commission for Cooperation. Mr Perez was accompanied by His Excellency (Colman Ferrore), ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cuba today and (?Juan Fuente), director of the Sub-Saharan African Division in the State Committee for Economic Cooperation [name and title as heard].

During the audience, the vice president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation conveyed the warm greetings of President Fidel Castro and stressed that the Cuban Government has made a point of developing and strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between Cuba and Guinea. Though our country now faces difficult times, we want to be useful and effective in our cooperation with Guinea, Mr Perez said before thanking President Lansana Conte for the hospitality which his delegation enjoyed.

Gen Conte spoke of the good relations which have always existed between Guinea and Cuba and pointed out that the Guinean Government is willing to develop such relations in order to give a new dimension to Cuban-Guinean cooperation. The meeting took place in the presence of Major Jean Traore, member of the Military Committee for National Redress and minister of state in charge of planning and natural resources; Jean Claude Diallo, secretary of state to the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation in charge of Guineans abroad; and Mr (Kemogo) Keita, director general of international cooperation.

LIBERIA

LAP Revokes Decision, To Take Legislative Seats

AB142312 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2210 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Excerpt] The chairman of the Liberia Action Party, LAP, Councillor Tuan Wreh, has been mandated by members of his party to revoke an earlier decision by the party to reject all seats won by candidates in the national legislature.

According to Councillor Wreh, he was mandated by his senior colleagues, some of whom are still in detention following the 12 November attempted coup in which government accused LAP of being involved. He then appealed to the government, through the head of state, to accord all LAP legislators safe conduct to and from the legislative session and a guarantee of immunity from harassment, arrest, and detention.

Councillor Wreh said he has also been mandated to inform the government and people of Liberia that the complaint filed by LAP to the Special Elections Commission alleging some irregularities, including allegations of electoral fraud, as basis for the rejection of legislative seats, is also withdrawn with immediate effect.

The LAP release said in keeping with the atmosphere of letting bygones be bygones and in furtherance of national reconcilaition, unity, and tranquility, Councillor Wreh also appealed to Head of State Doe to exercise the prerogative of mercy by granting executive clemency without conditions to all LAP members from the counties now languishing in jail so that they, too, may take part in the work of national reconstruction.

37 Immigration Officials To Be Tried by Tribunal

AB141053 Paris AFP in French 1030 GMT 04 Dec 85

[Text] Monrovia, 14 Dec (AFP) — Thirty-seven top officials of the Immigration Department "played a major role" in the 12 November abortive coup led by General Quiwonkpa in Liberia and will be tried by a special military tribunal, Edwin Taye, commissioner for immigration announced on Saturday.

The 37 people have already been removed from their posts for their "direct or indirect" support to the rebels led by former Gen Quiwonkpa, Mr Taye added. Inspector Henry G. King and many post commanders who check immigration at the borders will be tried by this tribunal on charges along with the military and paramilitary personnel accused of involvement in the coup attempt.

Cabinet Members Pledge Loyalty to President Doe

AB141805 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Members of the cabinet have pledge to stand with head of state, Commander in Chief [CIC] Dr Samuel K. Doe, in making every sacrifice and enduring all burdens necessary for national reconciliation and economic recovery. The statement was contained in a two-page document members of the cabinet presented to the Liberian leader yesterday at the Executive Mansion in affirmation of their loyalty and support to the head of state following the abortive 12 November invasion.

The document, read by Commerce Minister Mcleod E.T. Darpoh and presented to Dr. Doe by Health Minister Martha Sendolo Belleh, commended the head of state for remaining unrevengeful and his continuous call to Liberians for reconciliation and national reconstruction in spite of the calculated, premeditated, and plain attempt to take his life. Members of the cabinet also condemned all those who, while making preachment at home and abroad about their love for the country and the Liberian people, have resorted to evil and violence, employing the assistance of mercenaries to sow seeds of hatred among Liberian people, plundering and inflicting economic chaos, suffering, and even death upon innocent Liberians. The cabinet further commended Dr Doe for providing true leadership under such aggressive and difficult circumstances when he stood firm and demonstrated intrepidity, dedication, and commitment to the Liberian people.

Responding to the statement, Head of State Doe reiterated his call for national unity and reconciliation, and pointed out that it is about time that we all Liberians put aside all our petty difference and work for our people and country. Dr Doe, who emphasized the need to seek the welfare of the people, challenged the cabinet to be sincere in performing their duties as chief implementors of government policies designed to meet the needs of the people. The head of state also called on the cabinet and the entire citizenry to forget the past and move forward with renewed commitment in the Second Republic so that through unity and peace we can tackle our economic problems. Dr Doe further said if it meant sacrificing his life for the welfare of the Liberian nation and people, [he] was ready to do so since seeking the welfare of the Liberian people is of priority for government.

NIGER

Kountche Returns From Paris Summit, Comments

AB142245 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Excerpts] General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, returned to Niamey this afternoon from Paris where he took part in the 12th summit conference of heads of state of France and Africa.

Speaking to reporters in the VIP lounge, the head of state emphasized the success of the conferences he attended, beginning with the Sahel Club conference which was held in Milan, Italy.

[Begin Kountche recording] This Milan conference came up before the [word indistinct] summit and just after the agricultural campaign. It was meant to assess the assistance of the international community given through members of the club to the Sahel countries, especially during the dramatic period of 1984-85. Considering the improvement recorded in the 1985 agricultural campaign, it was necessary to outline new strategies in order to consolidate this improvement, within the framework of searching for food self-sufficiency and also fighting desert encroachment.

Our partners' consciences were greatly awakened to our problems and we were able, with the assistance of the Italian [name indistinct], to tell them that a respite in drought does not at all mean the end to our problems, but that the moment has come more than ever for the international community to increase its aid, especially the things that we need to (?increase our agricultural) output.

From there we went to Paris to attend what has now come to be called the summit of heads of state of France and Africa. This summit was held in two phases: the first phase was a meeting between the French head of state and a certain number of countries which have historical and special links with France. Then the summit was extended to other members of the African Continent. It so happened that regardless of whether one is from East, South, West, or Central Africa, our preoccupations were the same. Preoccupations were: the indebtedness of the Third World countries and particularly Africa, a situation which has seriously worsened the economic situation of the continent. For most West African countries discussing ways of achieving food self-sufficiency was the major concern, while for others, the meeting of the heads of state should be used to discuss issues of security, although this should not constitute the main topic for discussion. This is the case of Chad. The same goes for Morocco, which attended this summit for the first time with the aim of discussing the Western Sahara issue.

We can say that the Milan conference was a success, and that the Paris conference of heads of state of France and Africa — this is the 12th one — was better attended than the previous ones, and therefore a very successful one. [end recording]

Congo's Sassou-Nguesso Stops Over on Way Home

AB152205 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Excerpt] President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of Congo, who was returning home after participating in the 12th summit of heads of state of France and Africa in Paris, made a stopover in Niamey late this morning. He was met on arrival by General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, and his wife, Mrs (Nusi) Kountche; and the chief of staff of the National Armed Forces.

NIGERIA

Ex-President Obasanjo RSA Contact Group Co-Chairman

AB141500 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Nigeria's former head of state, Retired General Sam Olusegun Obasanjo, and Australia's former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser, have been appointed co-chairmen of the Commonwealth Contact Group on South Africa.

Individuals, NLC Laud Rejection of IMF Loan

AB132228 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Many Nigerians have expressed their whole-hearted support for the Federal Government's decision in rejecting a loan from the International Monetary Fund, IMF. In an opinion poll conducted by a team of Radio Nigeria correspondents today, members of the public described the government's decision as a wise one, especially as it was in line with the wishes of the majority of Nigerians. They also expressed their preparedness to make more sacrifices in order to ensure the speedy recovery of the country's ailing economy.

In its reaction, the Nigeria Labor Congress [NLC] described the Federal Government's decision as one of the most progressive in the history of Nigeria in particular and the Third World in general. The congress congratulated President Ibrahim Babangida and the entire people of Nigeria for this heroic and patriotic stand in laying to rest the myth of the International Monetary Fund.

The NLC assured the Federal Military Government of the unalloyed support of workers in the country in the efforts to turn around the economy. It, however, warned the Federal Government to be mindful of internal and external reactionaries who might be hell-bent on undermining the sovereignty of the country for their selfish interests. The NLC pledged that the Nigerian working class would resist with full determination such enemies of the country's progress.

Ghana's Tsikata Delivers Message to Babangida

AB131535 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] A special message from the Ghanaian leader, Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, was today delivered to President Ibrahim Babangida. A member of the Ghanaian Provisional National Defense Council, PNDC, Captain Kojo Tsikata, who delivered the message, said it was a response to an earlier one sent by President Babangida before the quadripartite meeting in Lagos last month.

On the proposal by Nigeria for a four-nation summit, he said his country's reaction was positive, as it believes in a policy of friendliness, peace, and stability in the subregion. Capt Tsikata said Ghana was prepared to discuss issues concerning the subregion at any place and at any time. He noted, however, that it will take time to bring the four heads together because of the process of working out the modalities. The Ghanaian envoy claimed that his country had no problem with Togo and as neighbors who were compelled by circumstances of geography and history to live and work together. [Sentence as heard]

SENEGAL

President Praises 12th France-Africa Summit

AB151720 Dakar Domestic Service in French
2000 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Abdou Diouf, the president of the republic, has just returned from Paris where he attended the 12th France-Africa summit. He told Malick Gueye, our reporter, about the summit:

[Begin recording][Gueye] Mr President, we paid particular attention to the deliberations of this France-Africa summit during which, as usual, you played an important diplomatic role. That is why we will ask you to tell us about the deliberations and your opinion of them.

[Diouf] We attended and participated in a summit which was without doubt one of the best summits of its kind. One of my colleagues, President Eyadema of Togo, even said that it was the best one and I could agree with him. This summit was remarkably organized by President Mitterrand and his government and the working sessions we held were also remarkably conducted by the French president as chairman of the conference, succeeding President Bagaza of Burundi.

This summit gave us the opportunities to conduct in-depth discussions on several issues of great interest to us as Africans. You know what my philosophy is and what the opinion of many other people is as far as this summit is concerned because France is our closest partner, a partner which is our best advocate in the community of nations. President Mitterrand played his role perfectly as our champion in all fields. We were therefore not surprised by the fact that he understood perfectly all the problems facing our continent: political, social, and economic. I am sure that you were not surprised by the fact that during this summit, we discussed the ways and means to fight the apartheid system and our indebtedness as African countries in the community of Third World countries which are also very much in debt. We discussed desert encroachment and the way to fight it, and drought and famine problems. We also discussed the Chadian problem, of course.

We tackled the issue of the special session to be held by the United Nations on the critical economic situaiton in Africa, the sanctions to be taken against the shameful Pretoria regime, and the proposed meeting scheduled to take place next June on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Soweto tragedy.

Our deliberations took place in a very informal atmosphere and the manner in which we hold our meetings is improving with every year. I returned from this France-Africa summit with very good impressions and I am very much satisfied with it. I am also convinced that if all the countries from the North had acted towards us as France does, we would have solved many of our problems and met many challenges a very long time ago and, in so doing, overcome the obstacles which hinder the development of the African Continent.

I would like to thank President Mitterrand, his government, and his people for the warm and even affectionate welcome we received from them and for their generous hospitality and, as I already said, for the good organization for our deliberations and all the other festivities which took place during our visit, a visit which put into concrete form the friendship between Africa and France. [end recording]

[Gueye] Thank you, Mr President.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Receives Iranian Deputy Minister

MB131550 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the People's Republic of Angola, received 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, the Iranian first deputy minister of foreign affairs, in Luanda this morning. The Iranian official handed a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to the Angolan head of state. Issues of mutual interest were discussed during the audience.

The Iranian official was accompanied by the secretary of the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, [words indistinct], the deputy chief of protocol, and the Iranian charge d'affaires in Harare. Comrade Afonso van Dunem, the Angolan minister of external relations, was present at the audience.

MAURITIUS

Governor General Dies; Mourning Declared

AB151624 Paris AFP in English 1620 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Port Louis, Dec 15 (AFP) — Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, governor general of Mauritius and prime minister for most of the country's years of independence, died today, an official announcement said. Sir Seewoosagur was 85. Three days of national mourning has been declared, the announcement said.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Opens People's Assembly Session in Maputo

MB121234 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0831 GMT 12 Dec 85

[Speech by Samora Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party, and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, to the 14th session of the People's Assembly in Maputo — live]

[Excerpts] Dear deputies of the People's Assembly, members of the diplomatic corps, guests, ladies, and gentlemen: This 14th session of the People's Assembly is yet another opportunity for us to decide together fundamental issues in our country's life. We were charged by the Mozambican people from Rovuma River to Maputo River with carrying out the difficult but honorable task of finding solutions to the various problems affecting our people.

The enthusiasm and joy of hundreds of thousands of Mozambicans marching in Maputo on 25 June was the most eloquent demonstration of the indestructible trust that the people have in their leadership. The march of 25 June was an extraordinary demonstration of patriotic fervor, revolutionary enthusiasm, and the people's belief in victory.

From the Rovuma River to Maputo River, the celebrations of the 10th anniversary of our independence were a moment of consolidation of national unity. Those celebrations singularly constitute an important political victory that created conditions for us to advance more rapidly and securely toward our objectives. During the 6 months that have passed since the 13th session of the People's Assembly, our people, under the leadership of the Frelimo Party, have been resolutely committed to the two great, and closely interwoven, priority fronts: the struggle for the total and complete liquidation of the armed bandits and the fight against famine and nakedness. Our people must become consistently aware of the close interrelation between these two fronts. Despite the many difficulties and shortcomings that continue to exist, we are witnessing the total engagement of our defense and security forces in protecting the materials and infrastructures necessary for economic development. By the same token, our economic sector is gradually responding to the needs of a war economy. We must enlarge and deepen communication and coordination between defense, security and essential economic sectors, thus making the struggle to eliminate armed banditry, that is, terrorism, more efficient.

On the military front in particular, the period since the 13th session has been marked by great and significant successes, notably in Sofala and Manica Provinces, where armed bandit camps were destroyed. The most important success of all was the taking of the main armed bandit camp in Gorongosa at the end of August. This was a military action of profound strategic importance. It was the peak of a series of offensive operations involving military forces stationed in several provinces. We emphasize and applaud the participation of military forces from the Republic of Zimbabwe in these operations. [applause] This participation consolidated the existing blood ties between the Zimbabwean and Mozambican peoples. It was the natural extension of the cooperation established during the armed struggle for national liberation in our two countries. The taking of Gorongosa was a severe blow to the armed banditry, and it was part of the vast military offensive that seeks to annihilate the armed bandits wherever they may be.

Also included in this offensive were important military operations victoriously carried out in a number of other provinces in the last few months, particularly in Niassa, Nampula, Zambezia, and Maputo Provinces. As a result of these operations, numerous armed bandit camps have been destroyed, hundreds of bandits killed or captured, and enormous quantities of war material captured. Thousands of Mozambicans who were forced to live with the armed bandits were freed and are currently reorganizing their lives with state support. An important supporting role has been played by friendly governments and international organizations whose solidarity we salute warmly. In many areas of the country that were under the constant threat of the armed banditry until recently, life is returning to normal and peace and tranquillity are being reestablished. These successes must constitute an incentive for the struggle to be intensified on all fronts. The struggle will only end with the total and complete liquidation of the armed bandits and terrorism. Only that will bring us the peace and progress that we desire. [applause]

The taking of the so-called Casa Banana in Gorongosa permitted us to capture hundreds of kilograms of documents that revealed the international conspiracy (?of the) reactionary forces. These documents, which are still being assessed by the specialized services, have already permitted the unequivocal exposure of the continued support that the armed bandits have been getting from the South African warmonger circles. The documents prove beyond any reasonable doubt that the Pretoria regime has never fulfilled its undertakings since it signed the Nkomati Accord. They also prove that even before the signing of the accord, elements of the South African regime already intended to not respect the accord. The documents perfectly demonstrate that, in clear violation of the Nkomati Accord, the armed bandits have continued to be led from South Africa and have continued to receive all logistical support, including arms and ammunition, from that country. Despite this attitude, the Mozambican nation is determined to demand that the Pretoria regime respect its commitments and accept internationally recognized norms of behavior and coexistence.

Deputies and guests, prior to holding the session of the People's Assembly, we continued with the political offensive launched after the fourth congress of our party, Frelimo. The diplomatic offensive has been a front geared toward the assertion of our personality as a free, sovereign, independent, nonaligned, and socialist nation. It is also a front geared toward the assertion of our nature as an African country engaged in the struggle against underdevelopment and the actions of destabilization of the apartheid regime in southern Africa. The diplomatic offensive that we have launched has as its basic principles the establishment of relations with all countries regardless of their political, economic, and social systems, based on respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, noninterference in domestic affairs, reciprocity of benefits, and peaceful solution of conflicts.

It was guided by this spirit, by concentrating its efforts on the search for solutions to end famine, nakedness, and illiteracy in our country, and for the transformation of our region into a zone of peace, that our government carried out intense diplomatic activity. The president of the People's Republic of Mozambique made a visit to the United States. Here, with President Ronald Reagan and other representatives of the U.S. Administration, we had frank and open discussions on the internal and external policy of our country and stated the sovereign and nonaligned nature of our nation. This dialogue turned out to be the correct path for greater political, diplomatic, and economic relations between the two countries. The visit to the United States, which constituted a success, has deepened the relations of friendship between the Mozambican and American peoples. In addition to the talks at the official level, fruitful meetings were held between the presidential delegation and solidarity organizations, high-ranking officials and businessmen, religious organizations, and friends of Mozambique.

On the occasion of visiting the United States, we also went to UN Headquarters, thus associating ourselves with the celebrations of its 40th anniversary. We spoke before the representatives of the great community of nations about the tense situation prevailing in southern Africa. In particular, we referred to the destabilizing role played in our region by the racist South African regime. We also dealt with other issues of extreme importance for the future of humanity and the establishment of more just and peaceful relations among the countries of the world.

On our return from the United States, we stopped over in London, Rome, and Nairobi. In London, we held a meeting with the prime minister of Great Britain, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, with whom we assessed relations between our two countries and the situation in southern Africa.

In Italy, Mozambique's largest economic partner in the West, we held talks with President Francesco Cossiga and Prime Minister Bettino Craxi. In addition to discussing the situation in southern Africa, the meetings also expressed the desire to extend cooperation to new areas.

In the Vatican, we had a meeting with His Holiness Pope John Paul II, with whom we discussed the questions of southern Africa and apartheid and relations between the Mozambican state and the Catholic Church. We reaffirmed the secular nature of our country in view of the existence of many religious denominations and sects. We also examined future relations between the Mozambican state and the Vatican. His holiness Pope John II condemned apartheid, racism, and terrorism and expressed hope for the prosperity and happiness of the Mozambican people.

In Nairobi, President Daniel arap Moi informed us about the progress of negotiations for peace in Uganda, which are being held in the Kenyan capital.

Regional cooperation has continued to be strengthened in the context of the SADCC. We attended the Arusha summit, which was an important occasion to deal with the developments in southern Africa and the progress attained in fulfilling the Lusaka accord in order to reduce the economic depedence of our countries in South Africa.

In Zaire last November, we attended the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the coming to power of President Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu wa za Banga. Recently, we were in Luanda as guests of the Second MPLA-Labor Party Congress. It was an occasion at which we reaffirmed the profound identity of views between our two peoples' struggles and the solidarity binding us. Also during this period, a high-ranking Frelimo Party and Mozambican state delegation made an official visit to the USSR. The visit further strengthened the long-standing ties of friendship and cooperation between our two parties, peoples, and states. The economic and military cooperation between the two countries was examined. We received from the USSR this year a large quantity of military uniforms, armament, and other war materiel defense capability and successfully carry out the struggle against armed bandits. The fuel supplies to our country by the USSR play a fundamental role in our economic programs. It is our hope that the ties of friendship and cooperation that were strengthened by this visit will be further consolidated.

Dear deputies, we had the honor to receive in our country a number of distinguished personalities who showed their love, solidarity, and friendship for the Mozambican people and their interest in our people's engagement in the struggle against backwardness. We received in our country Mr Abdou Diouf, the president of Senegal and the current chairman of the OAU. President Abdou Diouf's visit enabled him to familiarize himself with the political, economic, and social situation of the countries of this region. During our meetings, we examined the issue of southern Africa and the development of the process of liberation in the region for the elimination of colonialism in Namibia and apartheid in South Africa.

Radovan Vlajkovic, the president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, made an official and friendly visit to our country. The visit further strengthened the ties between the two countries and reaffirmed the principles of nonalignment which guide the foreign policy of Mozambique and Yugoslavia.

During this period, we were also honored with the visit by Mrs Danielle Mitterrand, the wife of the French head of state, who has been playing an important role in the mobilization of the French people to support our country. Princess Anne, the daughter of Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain, also visited our country bringing us a message of solidarity from the British state, government, and people and assistance for the victims of disasters.

In Maputo last September, a summit of the frontline heads of state and government was held during which Dr Kenneth David Kaunda, the president of Zambia, was elected chairman of the Frontline States to replace President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania following his decision to step down as the leader of the Tanzanian state.

On the eve of 1986, mankind as a whole is full of expectations about the results of the recent summit between the two world superpowers, the USSR and the United States. We salute this summit as it responds to the desire for peace and prosperity of peoples worldwide.

Dear deputies, according to our working agenda, during this 14th session of the People's Assembly, we are going to examine important issues of our national life. The legislative acts of the People's Assembly Standing Commission promulgated during the period since we held the last session will be presented to the assembly for ratification. They include the ratification of the law introducing changes to the composition of the council of ministers aimed at making the definition of the composition more accurate and precise, as well as the law introducing changes to economic associations. This law is aimed, in special cases, at enabling state and nationalized enterprises as well as cooperatives to become members of economic associations only when there are economic or other benefits for the national economy, particularly if it helps in the smooth running of the state central plan for 1986 and the state budget draft for the same year. Once these bills are presented, the deputies will have the opportunity to examine them in detail as these two documents are fundamental to our economic and social life in 1986.

SOUTH AFRICA

Landmine Kills Six; Zimbabwe Warned on ANC Camps

MB160615 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Six people have been killed and five seriously injured in a landmine explosion on the farm (Chatsworth) about 30 km from Messina. Our military correspondent reports that the mine appears to have been planted along with all the previous mines which have exploded or been defused in this part of the northern Transvaal.

Defense headquarters in Pretoria has announced that the light truck in which the 11 people were traveling detonated the mine shortly before 1700 last night. The six people killed were members of two Tzaneen families.

The defense force says it is continuing its patrols of the area but has urged visitors to the district not to ride around aimlessly. They should first report to the Soutpansberg military headquarters at Messina.

Further Details

MB131810 Johannesburg Television Service in English
1700 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] The defense force is continuing its operations in the Messina district in the northern Transvaal where landmine detonated yesterday injuring a soldier and damaging a troop carrier. It was the 10th landmine incident in the area in the last 3 weeks.

The mine was planted on a seldom-used road on a game farm about 50 km west of Messina. The owner of the farm had asked the defense force to sweep the area for mines [illegible] mining incidents in the region, and it was in the process of the sweep that the device was detonated.

Pik Botha Comments

MB160846 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0836 GMT
16 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 16, SAPA — The South African Government said today it was "urgently approaching" the Zimbabwe authorities after six people died in a landmine explosion near the border of the two countries.

Four of the victims were children under the age of 10, the SA Defence Force said. The landmine was detonated late yesterday by a light truck travelling through a game farm, Chatsworth, 30km from Messina.

The SADF said the landmine was situated in the same area where a series of landmine explosions occurred in recent weeks. According to an earlier SADF statement, the landmines were planted by insurgents who had crossed the border from Zimbabwe.

Five people were injured in the Chatsworth blast.

The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said in a brief statement today:

"The SA Government is urgently approaching the Zimbabwean authorities in connection with the incident, and with a view to finding ways and means of removing the threat of violence and terror of this nature."

Those killed in the landmine explosion were Mrs Ambie van Eck, 34, Ignatius van Eck, 2, Nellmarie van Eck, 8, Karna Denyschen, 9, Kobus Denyschen, 3, and Mrs Marie Denyschen, 59, the SADF said.

Pik Botha Says ANC Must Renounce One-Party State

MB160632 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says the South African Government cannot negotiate with the ANC as long as it advocates the creation of a one-party state. Interviewed by the SABC, he said that no white government or any black leader could negotiate with those elements within the organization that called for a one-party state, a government-controlled press, and the nationalization of private property. He remained convinced that there were enough whites, blacks, Coloreds, and Indians in South Africa who wanted peace. There were, moreover, various Western governments which avoided prescribing a political order for the country, saying it was for the South Africans themselves to say how they wished to be governed.

Mr Botha said the danger was if South Africa did not find an alternative quickly, the idea of one-man-one-vote would become attractive to the West, which favored a quick settlement. The West, he said, had to be convinced that South Africa was doing the right thing, as he put it, and was sincere in its intentions.

Intelligence Sources See Libyan Aid to ANC

MB150820 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0800 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has reportedly become actively involved in guerrilla attempts to overthrow the South African Governemnt. South African intelligence sources who have been monitoring the situation say Col al-Qadhdhafi has aligned himself with the ANC and say Libya is prepared to aid to black nationalist movements in their fight against the Pretoria government. He says he will make his country's forces available to fight against South African troops and he is said to have offered Zimbabwe and other states bordering South Africa to supply them with arms to counter Pretoria's alleged attempts to destabilize southern Africa. The intelligence sources also say Libya financed a recent anti-apartheid meeting in Tripoli attended by SWAPO and ANC representatives, and that East German instructors were allowed to train SWAPO and ANC (?forces) in Libya.

Foreign TV Crews Reportedly Held in Mamelodi

MB141214 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] At least (?three) foreign television news crews are being held by police in Mamelodi. The crews are being held in the Pretoria township police station following a clash between Security forces and participants in a funeral procession. No further details are available concerning the situation in the township.

A number of funerals are scheduled to take place in townships around Johannesburg and Pretoria this weekend and there are rumors that a march on the city of Pretoria is being planned for Sunday by activists in the surrounding African townships. Yesterday it was reported relations between the security forces and Mamelodi residents were tense once again following incidents of harassment of residents at roadblocks manned by police and troops.

SAPA on Correspondents

MB141326 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1402 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 14, SAPA — Police briefly detained eight foreign correspondents in Pretoria today and demanded their film of the funeral of three victims of the Mamelodi November 21 shooting. Twelve victims were buried on December 6.

Graham Leach, BBC TV's southern Africa correspondent, said he was detained briefly at the funeral together with a number of foreign newsmen. He said they were taken to a nearby police station where they were asked to hand over all films and sound recordings of the funeral.

The journalists pointed out that Mamelodi was not an area covered by the emergency regulations and the police then seemed to "give up" he said. They were released after twenty minutes.

Another of those held said the funeral of Mr Sidney Nkosi, 22, Mr Tsitsi Motsei and two-month-old Catherine Siwela was uneventful until the 2000-strong crowd was leaving the stadium where the memorial service had been held and two foreign cameramen were seized by police.

"Two white uniformed policemen grabbed two CBS cameramen, held pistols to their heads and marched them down the road," the eyewitness said. A police squad then moved and started arresting other newsmen.

"This attracted stonethrowers, and a freelance cameraman, Brian Tilley was hit on the leg, fell and was unable to get up. As the rocks began to fly, the policeman ran off, letting Brian loose," the eyewitness said. The police action seemed to provoke the stonethrowing, Leach said.

"It was totally peaceful until then."

Police headquarters spokesmen said no comment could be made at this stage on the report of the correspondents' brief detention. Enquiries in this regard should be telexed to the directorate of public relations in Pretoria and they would in due course be replied to.

[Johannesburg SAPA in English at 1402 GMT on 14 December transmits a service message changing the number of victims stated in the first paragraph to "two" instead of "three" and deleting the name of the third victim listed in the fourth paragraph, "two-month-old Catherine Siwela."]

FCA Condemns Detention

MB150514 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1517 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 14, SAPA — The detention of foreign correspondents at a funeral in Mamelodi, near Pretoria, today was "unprovoked harassment of reporters at a peaceful event and in a non-emergency area where reporters have a right to work," the Foreign Correspondents Association [FCA] said in a statement. The eight journalists were briefly detained by police who demanded their film of the Mamelodi funeral, at which two victims of the November 21 police shootings were buried.

The FCA statement said the move showed "that some policemen are either ignorant of the law or choose to take the law into their own hands. Either way, an ill-informed public is the victim," the statement said.

Further on Consumer Boycotts; 'Intimidation'

Mamelodi Boycott

MB131437 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1400 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] No reports of intimidation have been received by police on the first of a 2-day safe Christmas shopping campaign for residents of Mamelodi, Pretoria's black township.

Black Consumers Shopping

MB131450 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1447 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 13, SAPA — More black consumers were in Pretoria shops today following the distribution by helicopter of thousands of pamphlets over Mamelodi last night, the chairman of the Committee of the Pretoria Business Community, Mr D.W. Rolt, said today.

Mr Rolt said the pamphlets had indicated that shoppers could do their shopping freely and in peace, and a survey undertaken by the committee "has revealed a decided improvement in the situation in that area."

"Not only is the situation more peaceful in the township, but prominent business undertakings have indicated that there has been a decided increase in their floor traffic of black buyers as well as in their turnovers," Mr Rolt said in a statement to SAPA.

The committee appealed to employers of Mamelodi residents "to allow additional time to their employees to make use of this opportunity to make their purchases during the special days specifically arranged for them."

Police Deny Boycott Leader Detained

MB131428 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1418 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 13, SAPA — As the black consumer boycott began to bite in the Pretoria/Witwatersrand area and tension mounted in many townships, police today denied reports that boycott spokesman, Mr Jabu Ngwenya, has been detained. Witnesses said Mr Ngwenya, the chief spokesman for the Soweto Consumer Boycott Committee, was detained yesterday.

They said he was arrested by four policemen outside Freeway house in Braamfontein where the offices of the student newspaper, SASPO [expansion unknown] National, are housed. Police said, according to their records, no one of that name had been detained under emergency or security regulations. While supermarket workers in Johannesburg reported a greatly reduced flow of shoppers through their tills, at least four people have died in boycott-related violence this week.

The boycott, in force in all the PWV [Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vaal] townships, has antagonised many residents. Many elderly residents cannot understand the call while others said it made life unbearable.

People who have taken the risk of buying their goods at white-owned shops, had to run the gauntlet of "enforcers" — some of them their own children — when they reached their homes.

A Kagiso resident said: "Youths as young as 14 stop taxis and private cars coming from town. They destroy groceries found in the vehicles and in some cases assault those who refuse to hand over their goods. Where in the world have you seen youths as young as 12 making decisions? Can one expect any direction from such youths?"

A Soweto mother of three children said: "The consumer boycott is our only weapon with which we can fight evil structures that take peoples lives. Let us not be deterred or confused by pamphlets circulated in the townships saying the consumer boycott has been called off."

Youths Asked To Stop Harrassment

MB131942 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] A Soweto youth was shot dead this afternoon as violence erupted over the black consumer boycott. Troops moved into the Diepkloof area of the township to break up bands of youth said to be confiscating food, clothes, and Christmas presents from commuters returning home. They bought the goods in defiance of the boycott for white businesses. A resident reported that soldiers shot dead a youth as they broke up the crowd.

Meanwhile, the boycott committee has appealed to militant youth to stop harassing township residents. A spokesman for the organizing committee says the harrassment was never intended.

[Begin recording by unidentified spokesman] The serious fact is that there has been intimidation that has been used, but basically that has never been our plan, to abuse the (?socialist order). We do not approve of the methods used, like for instance, people drinking frying oil, and people being made to eat rice. We do not approve of that. We actually condemn that, for we believe that this action of hooligans who are taking advantage of this consumer situation. [end recording]

AZAPO President Detained Before Congress in Durban

MB150517 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1526 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Durban, Dec 14, SAPA — The Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) today accused the police "of trying to harass its officials" by detaining its national president in Johannesburg on the eve of AZAPO's annual congress in Durban.

The deputy president, Mr Joe Seoka, also of Johannesburg, and its Cape vice-president, Mr Phambile Ntloko, told the start of the congress today AZAPO would not be intimidated.

Mr Seoka said the national president, Mr Ishmael Mkhabele, was detained last night shortly before he was due to leave for Durban to attend the congress.

More than 500 delegates from throughout the coutnry arrived at a community centre in Durban's Indian suburb of Asherville and decided to go ahead with the three-day congress, despite the absence of Mr Mkhabele who was to have delivered the presidential address.

Police Report Unrest Incidents, Arrests, Arson

13 Dec Evening Report

MB131753 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1720 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 13, SAPA — The SA police 7 pm unrest situation report:

Incidents of arson and stone-throwing occured during the day.

Soweto, WWR [Witwatersrand]: Several buses and delivery vehicles were attacked by arsonists and extensive damage was caused. In one incident a delivery truck was set alight.

Attridgeville, Pretoria: A passenger bus was destroyed when it was set alight by arsonists.

A delivery vehicle was attacked by about 200 youths in Soweto at approximately 6.40 pm. Police fired one round of birdshot and an unknown black man aged 26 was fatally wounded.

At approximately 6.15 pm an explosive device exploded outside the magistrate offices in Chatsworth, Durban and damage was caused to the building. Nobody was injured in the blast.

Police are investigating the exact nature of the device and the possibility of sabotage.

14 Dec Morning Report

MB140613 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0612 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 14, SAPA — The following is the 8 am unrest situation report issued by the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

In Mamelodi, a black township near Pretoria, three black men were arrested on a train for victimising the passengers.

In Raymondsmead, in the Western Cape, about 150 Coloureds stoned the police.

In a subsequent police action, one coloured female, and two coloured youths, were slightly injured and one coloured male was arrested.

In Soshanguve, a black township near Pretoria, blacks stoned the house of a South African police member.

The member concerned fired with his duty pistol, and wounded and arrested one black male.

14 Dec Evening Report

MB150504 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1739 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 14, SAPA — The following is the 7 pm police unrest situation report.

In Chesterville in Natal a mob of 150 blacks stoned a private home and one round was fired at the house from an unknown firearm by one of the group. A black man was wounded by the shot and there were no arrests or police action. In Mamelodi in Pretoria about 15 blacks ransacked a shop and a black man was arrested by the owner of the shop. No further incidents or police action. No other serious incidents of unrest were reported.

15 Dec Evening Report

MB150657 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0655 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 15, SAPA — The following is the 7 am situation report issued by the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

In Leslie (Eastern Transvaal): One black youth and one black male were arrested after an unlawful procession by a group of about 200 blacks.

In KwaNdebele (Transvaal): About 1000 blacks set a private house alight after a funeral and caused about R32,000 damage. There was no police action.

KwaThema (East Rand): Three blacks shot at the house of a SAP member with an AK47 rifle. A Sergeant Sithole as well as two visitors were wounded and taken to the Far East Rand Hospital. In another incident a black man, identified only as

Peter, was found dead with wounds to his head. Shrapnel and the main spring, the device used to trigger a handgrenade, were found at the scene. Nothing more is known at this stage. Police are investigating.

In Soweto (Johannesburg): Six blacks rampaged a private house causing about R300 damage. Police arrested one black youth and one black male.

15 Dec Evening Report

MB160505 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1722 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 15, SAPA — The SA Police 7 pm unrest situation report.

In Kwa-Indegezi, Port Natal, 28 black men died and 48 were injured in a faction fight early today. Everything is quiet now and under control.

Mamelodi: An SADF vehicle was stoned by blacks. Police arrested two black men.

Soshanguve: A house of SAP member was set alight by about 30 black people. Damage estimated at around R1,000. There was no police action and no arrests.

16 Dec Morning Report

MB160553 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0549 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 16, SAPA — The following is the 7 am unrest situation report as issued by the public relations directorate of the South African Police:

New Brighton (Port Elizabeth): About 500 blacks stoned a shop and a SAP police vehicle causing extensive damage. A SAP police member was slightly injured. Four black men were arrested.

Sibonglie (Dundee, Natal) 300 blacks stoned the house of a councillor Nyimbi. Damages unknown. Four black youths were arrested. In Berea, Durban, near the Curry Fountain Stadium, about 800 blacks stoned a private house, causing damage estimated at R1,000, a SADF vehicle (damage R1,450) and a business centre (damage R600). Police had to use quirts to disperse the mob. Three members of the SAP were slightly injured and one black male and one black youth were slightly injured.

Commentary Criticizes U.S. Stand on Human Rights

MB130522 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] With his sharp criticism of alleged human rights violations in South Africa, President Ronald Reagan has demonstrated that even the United States applies two sets of standards — one for this country and another for the rest of the world. At a White House ceremony to mark Human Rights Day, he said the inhuman policy of apartheid continued: frequent human rights violations occurred, the declaration of the state of emergency had given the police essentially unlimited powers to silence the critics of the government, and thousands of South Africans had been detained without cause or charge.

Mr Reagan added that the United States expected concrete areas of reform early in the new year to terminate apartheid and to end the country's turmoil through compromise and reconciliation.

Along with South Africa, Mr Reagan mentioned other countries whose human rights records left much to be desired, but there was not a word about what they should do to set the matter right. Two months ago he imposed selective sanctions against South Africa in order to precipitate change. This was done not long after he had stated that the American policy of constructive engagement was not aimed at prescribing solutions for this country, but at providing a protective umbrella under which South Africans themselves could solve their problems.

This increasingly prescriptive action is not limited solely to the Reagan administration. American businessmen in this country this week came up with a whole string of political demands. They include the lifting of the state of emergency in all areas, the institution of a unitary education system, the removal of influx control and the abolition of the pass laws, and the bringing about of meaningful black participation in government.

But American concern for human rights clearly does not stretch as far as the Soviet Union — four hundred representatives of more than 150 American firms, accomplanied by the secretary of commerce — the largest American trade mission ever to visit the Soviet Union — are currently in Moscow to discuss expanding trade between the two superpowers. This without setting any conditions whatsoever: the Soviet Union has not been asked to extend democracy to all its citizens, desist from suppressing minorities, stop its war in Afghanistan, or abandon its expansionist policies and plans for world domination.

The Soviet Union remains the most oppressive society in the world, but the Americans are apparently quite satisfied with Soviet leader Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's view that human rights is a domestic affair.

In reply to a French journalist on the treatment meted out to dissidents, such as Andrey Sakharov and Anatoliy Sharanskiy, Mr Gorbachev calmly said: Let us in the Soviet Union manage our affairs ourselves, and you in France manage yours.

South Africa does not deny its faults. The difference between South Africa, on the one hand, and the Soviet Union, dictatorships in black Africa and other oppressive regimes, on the other hand, is that this country is the only one actively engaged in extending democracy to all its peoples.

But while punitive measures have been instituted against South Africa, and this country is condemned at every turn, the United States associates and trades freely with countries curtailing democratic freedoms and even with those actively working for America's downfall. To many South Africans this is nothing short of sheer hypocrisy.

Press Reportage, Commentary on Emergency

14 Dec Press Review

MB140449 [Editorial Report] South African English- and Afrikaans-language newspapers continue to report and comment on the state of emergency and related topics:

U.S. Congressmen's Visit

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 13 December carries an article reporting the arrival of seven U.S. congressmen in South Africa this week. "*THE CITIZEN* was told it was highly unlikely the Government would intervene in any way with the visit by the members of the U.S. Congress," the paper reports.

CITIZEN on Sanctions

In its editorial, the paper reviews various overseas pressures exerted on South Africa. It says that no one overseas cares if this leads to anarchy, hurts neighboring black countries, pushes whites to the wall so they "take up arms in a bloody confrontation that will make what has been going on here a picnic by comparison," o the country's minerals and strategic position is lost to the We "Put bluntly, the United States and other Western countri are going too far with the disinvestment, sanctions and other p itive measures they are imposing. South Africa is changi dramatically — and will change in even more significant wa . But by bashing a country led by a reformist Government, t y are setting in train events that will have the most unfortu te consequences not just for South Africa but the whole souther African region and the West itself."

University Report on Detentions

"Dr St t Saunders, rector of the University of Cape Town, said yesterd he was unaware of 'tension' between the Government and the Iniversity over the recent publication of a report on detenti in South Africa," the paper reports. The report by a lecturer t the university claimed that 83 percent of detainees had alle d they had been tortured. Chancellor Harry Oppenheimer cou be asked to use his influence to prevent a confrontation betwee e university and government over the report.

Trade With India

The pa reports that Durban wholesalers trading secretly with India h lost several million rands as a result of a clampdown by the lian Government on "illegal dealing." A number of cargoes ve been seized.

Bar Owners Threatened

Johann urg *SOWETAN* in English on 13 December reports that sco s of "shebeen [bar] owners have been subjected to extortio ince the 'Black Christmas' and the consumer boycott were announced the townships." Youths have raided the bars to demand " 'protection fees.' " "Those who refused to pay the money were threatened and told their homes would be set alight," owners told the paper.

Conflict Over COSATU

"Two weeks after being formed, some affiliates of the Council of South African Trade Unions [COSATU] are already questioning its political leanings," the paper reports. Some affiliates claimed that "elements" were "trying to sway the movement to support the African National Congress."

Human Rights Day

In its editorial on Human Rights Day, the paper notes the country had not even noted the occasion, although "a statement by the State President, Mr P.W. Botha, committing his Government to striving towards the ideas in the Declaration of Human Rights would have done wonders for the morale of this country." It notes that the country has not signed the declaration, with ministers saying the "country has a better human rights record than some of its opponents." "That argument will not do. Our concern as South Africans is for what is happening in South Africa."

Bodies in Kagiso

"As the consumer boycott gains hold and incidents of intimidation, assaults and injuries are reported from most Reef townships, three bullet-riddled bodies have been found in Kagiso, near Krugersdorp," the paper reports. Although the cause of the deaths were not known, it was believed they were connected with the " 'tense and volatile situation' " in the townships of Kagiso and Munsieville as a result of the consumer boycott. In a releated story, it was reported that a second Kagiso councillor had resigned "because he feared for his life." The deputy mayor resigned earlier. Both said community pressure had forced them to quit.

Rand To Rise

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 13 December reports Reserve Bank Governor Gerhard de Kock as saying that "the benefits of the foreign debt standstill will be reflected in the value of the rand next January." "Certainly by the end of that month, other things being equal, the rand should begin to appreciate against the dollar." De Kock said that many of the negative factors affecting the rand were subsiding and positive factors "would increasingly assert themselves."

Black Business Investment

The paper reports that private sector financial institutions have been asked to invest in black small businesses by Small Business Development Corporation head Ben Vosloo. He said that the difference between planned spending in white and black areas amounted to R5 billion over the next 5 years.

BUSINESS DAY Editorial

In an editorial on the package put together for the country's creditors, the paper says for "Pretoria to think that its opponents would accept the transformation of a 30-day bill into a medium-term loan at an unrelated interest rate is lunacy." If the government cannot get rescheduling right, what hope is there for political reform? The paper says the country is likely to lose the first round of negotiations over the debt and that it was likely "the political demands of the other side will be stepped up, and the ground between the two will become wider."

PFP's Dilemma

An article by Political Correspondent Paul Bell on the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] says that despite the party's "growing credibility in the black community, it faces a difficult marketing problem among whites as government adopts the party's political language and whips up fears among marginal PFP supports that some urban seats may end up with the Conservative Party." The party is also perceived by whites as a transition to black majority rule, and is therefore not trusted. Most dangerous of all, the National Party is borrowing its ideas and language of the PFP, making that party irrelevant.

Effects of Reef Boycott

Johannesburg *CITY PRESS* in English on 15 December [date as published] carries a report by Z.B. Molefe on the black consumer boycott in the Reef, affecting the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging region and the northern Transvaal. Molefe reports that some people say that business turnover in Pretoria is down by 85 to 90 percent. In Johannesburg, the chief executive of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce has invited the consumer boycott committee to hold talks. Molefe quotes Reef consumer boycott committee organizer Jabu Ngwenya as deploring the violence associated with boycotts and said that people should lodge complaints with civic and youth organizations.

Call for Return to Class

The same issue carries a report by Mono Badela on a call by Curtis Nkondo, president of the National Education Union of South Africa, for students to return to class. Nkondo, who was 1 of the 12 United Democratic Front (UDF) leaders recently acquitted of treason charges, said that if students do not go back to school, " 'they will fail to organise themselves and will not be able to work as a coherent force. If they are not together they will be easily manipulated,' " adding that the students' struggle for reform would be more effective if they were united.

Leandra Youth Leader Ambushed

Mundini Maivha reports in the same issue that Abel Nkabinde, chairman of the Leandra Youth Committee, "narrowly escaped death this week when a gunman missed him with nine bullets." Three of the bullets struck a Leandra resident who was standing nearby. Maivha reports that "police are investigating the incident after Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange was contacted by Johannesburg East Anglican Bishop Suffragan Simeon Nkoane."

Students Injured in Raid

An article in the same issue reports that one University of the North student was shot and three other stabbed when Lebowa Police raided the campus, while another 21 students were treated by a local doctor for injuries ranging from stabbings to assaults with rifle butts. Police reportedly broke down doors and assaulted students during the raid.

SAAWU Organizer Killed

Sibusio Mngadi reports in the same issue that Ian Zamisa, a prominent South Africa Allied Workers Union (SAAWU) organizer, was killed at Chesterville in Durban. Mngadi reports that "leading Durban activists fear that the hit squad know as the 'A-Team,' which has killed many UDF activists, has resumed its reign of terror." Jay Naidoo, general secretary of the Congress of South African Trade Unions, of which SAAWU is an affiliate, "condemned the brutal murder of a 'comrade' committed to the struggle to liberate the working class. 'In future such attacks will get a definite response,' " he said.

Further on UDF Acquittal

Sibusio Mngadi reports that in the wake of the acquittal of 12 UDF leaders on treason charges, "the UDF national executive committee has decided to spearhead the campaign for the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners." In a related article, Mangadi says that "five of the recently acquitted UDF treason trialists plan to sue Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange for unlawful arrest. They are UDF national president Archie Gumede, Natal Indian Congress president George Sewpersadh, Mewa Ramgobin, Paul David and K.J. Naidoo." A related report by Mono Badela says that the "failure of the case against 12 of the 16 UDF leaders now allows legal political organisations which represent the interests of the majority to exist," according to Univerity of Witwatersrand political studies lecturer Mark Swilling. In an editorial on the acquittal of 12 UDF leaders on treason charges, *CITY PRESS* says: "We are all relieved that the 12 United Democratic Front leaders who faced charges of high treason have had these withdrawn. It was a painful, nasty experience that lasted just over a year." The editorial then goes on to say that the loss of those leaders for a year is partly responsible for "our situation which abounds with contradictions and confusions." It hopes that the 12 "will tackle the issue of the proposed consumer boycott which has plunged our communities into the worst possible state of confusion." The editorial notes the incident in which a widowed mother of five who had her food taken from her and says: "Any campaign must be laced with sensitivity, compassion and directed in a manner which can be monitored to have the desired effect. If discipline and monitoring cannot be achieved, then it can easily fall into the hands of senseless hooligans who just cause havoc to people's lives. We do not believe the present campaign has been well thought out and for this reason it must be re-examined. Any action that causes resentment in the fight for a just society can only be counter-productive in the struggle for that society."

In the "Percy's Itch" column, Percy Qoboza discusses a letter form a reader asking why black-oriented newspapers acept advertisemtns from white businesses. Qoboza says that were it not for advertising, there would be no press at all, and business and the press "are, so to speak, allies in the great venture of communicating to the nation." Turning to the acquittal of UDF leaders, Qoboza says that the trial "was a terrible indictment on the administration of justice in SA." He adds that although the government had sought to "neutralise" their leadership, "if anything, the twelve's stature has grown considerably since the trial began. But the tragedy is that, because of the stringent bail conditions imposed on them, they were powerless to act to bring about normality in a situation that has grown insane in the townships."

Call for Desegregated Education

In its "prospects" supplement, *CITY PRESS* reports on a speech by John Kane-Berman, director of the South African Institute of Race Relations. According to Kane-Berman, the work environment of the future will be quite different from today's: "Discrimination in industry will be a thing of the past, and the work environment will be almost totally nonracial." One way to prepare for these changes, Kane-Berman says, is to immediately begin with desegregating education, which would better prepare people to deal with one another in the future.

Business Urges Reform

The supplement also reports on remarks by the chairman of the Federated Chamber of Industries, Leo Borman, who said that "South Africa's serious economic situation cannot be remedied without a convincing plan for economic and political reconstruction, backed by political reforms." A related article notes that "five of the country's most powerful businessmen met President P.W. Botha to discuss reform initiatives that could be pursued by the SA Government." According to the paper, "this is the first time such a high level private meeting has taken place between the Government and English and Afrikaans businessmen" and it was attended by "Harry Oppenheimer, Anglo American's Gavin Relly, Dr Fred du Plessis of Sanlam, former Gencor [General Mining Union Corporation] head Dr Wim de Villiers and Dr Anton Rupert, who runs the Rembrandt empire." Another article reports on a speech by Robert Reunert, president of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce, to the chamber's annual meeting, in which he said: "South Africa never had a better time than 'right now' to eliminate the last vestiges of apartheid." He noted that the next elections were not until 1989, which would give the government time to " 'prove to the electorate that a totally free South Africa, in which all citizens have an equal stake, can be a better place in every sense of the word.' "

Black Consumer Spending

The supplement also reports: "Total consumer expenditure by black people will increase to R28,000-million and represent 37 percent of the country's total consumer spending by the year 2000, says Professor J.A. Lombard of Pretoria University's Bureau for Economic Policy and analysis. The black share of the total expenditure on food will be 60 percent — 49 percent on clothes and footwear and 56 percent on beverages."

Johannesburg Consumer Boycott

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 13 December carries an article by Craig Kotze on the Johannesburg consumer boycott and measures black shoppers are taking to evade the boycott and dodge the penalty inflicted for breaking the boycott. Black shoppers insist on unmarked shopping bags, peel off price stickers, and transfer their purchases from supermarket bags to suitcases or carry-alls. Some also wait until dark to enter the townships. A related report quotes an unidentified spokesman for the consumer boycott committee as defending the boycott, while apologizing " 'for the overexuberance of some of our cadres when monitoring the boycott.' " Chris More reports on those who enforce the boycott, whom he says "are children, whose ages range from six years, sometimes younger, to youths and young men in their late twenties." The youths threaten to cut permed hair, forced a man to drink a bucketful of water and detergent, raided a wedding feast, destroyed groceries and forced people to eat what they have bought, including cooking oil in the case of a Soweto woman. Rick Mkhondo reports that township residents interviewed by *THE STAR* "are angry about the boycott and the accompanying violence." Residents complained that the boycott call was mandatory and said that the consumer boycott committee's banning of weddings is similar to the police banning of funerals.

In its editorial, the paper discusses the boycott issue, which it says is becoming very "murky." What the boycotts have shown is that they "can harm even those who have instituted them. Many black people support the consumer boycott, but are finding the tactics employed totally unacceptable."

Editorial on Tax Overhaul

In an editorial on the tax system, *THE STAR* says: "Next year will be a tough one for everybody and very noticeably so for the middle class salary earner. The twin horns of inflation and the present tax structure hoist him on a battling dilemma. The harder he works the worse off he seems to be. Individual taxpayers carry a rapidly increasing share of the country's tax burden. In the last five years, their share has leapt fivefold — while that of companies has shrunk by half." The editorial calls for a "major overhaul" of the tax system, cutting taxes and at the same time cutting some state expenditure, particularly "the wasteful costs of apartheid."

Inquests on COSAS Members

Andrew Beattie reports in the same issue on an inquest into the death of Philip Sipho Mutsi, a 17-year-old Congress of South African Students organizer, who died after being interrogated by the police. One of the policemen who interrogated Mutsi "could not explain how he had incurred injuries said to be consistent with sjambok marks." Inga Molzen reports on another inquest, at which a neighbor testified that "the secretary of the Soweto branch of the Congress of South African Students (COSAS), Mr Bongani Khumalo (19), was shot by a police lieutenant, dragged from a Soweto home and assaulted by members of the police patrol last year."

DIE VADERLAND on Boycotts

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 12 December says in an editorial that "in the eastern Cape the black consumer boycott has succeeded. Now it is spreading to the PWV [Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging] area." The question to be asked is can black protest as such be justified? Without black pressure, reform would not have become such an urgent matter. At least the consumer boycott is not violent. The justification is somewhat attenuated because the government is not prepared to negotiate. To the extent that the radical leaders have refused to negotiate, the justification to protest has declined. The case for protest boycotts is being further weakened because a great deal of the black people are doing it under intimidation. This leads in turn to violence against blacks themselves. In conclusion, the editorial says: "White businesses will not founder without job opportunities for blacks suffering in the process."

Police, SADF To Protest Shoppers

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 13 December says in an article that "a joint police and SADF unit is going to protect black shoppers in Mamelodi and Soshanguve outside Pretoria against intimidators who force them to participate in the consumer boycott." The Afrikaanse Sakekamer [Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce] has asked for police help at the request of businessmen and black people in Pretoria.

BEELD on U.S. Congressmen

In an editorial the same issue, *BEELD* says: "It is said that American politics has some resemblance to American 'show biz': just like show business celebrities, American politicians want publicity to get the attention of voters." With the summer recess, American congressmen will be traveling to various parts of the world to say something that will receive the attention of their voters. Reports from Washington indicate that a group of congressmen are planning to visit South Africa next week to assess the political situation here and to investigate the media blackout of events in the unrest areas. This group was apparently invited by Bishop Tutu. For these people it will be easy to say "we were there," and one can doubt in advance their desire to understand the complexity of the South African situation.

15 Dec Press Review

MB150529 [Editorial Report] **Man Killed in Soweto** — Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 14 December reports that a young man was killed in Soweto when youths returning from the funeral of a Diepkloof man attacked commuters who had broken the consumer boycott and seized clothes, food, and Christmas presents. It is believed that soldiers killed the man while breaking up the crowd.

COSATU To Support Boycott

Mike Siluma reports in the same issue that the Springs branch of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) has expressed support for the black consumer boycott. A COSATU statement said that the organization supported the boycott and called for disciplined behavior to avoid violence.

Land Buying in Spain

A report from *THE STAR*'s Foreign News Service says that "South Africans are snapping up property on the Mediterranean coast near Gibraltar, say estate agents and property developers on the Costa del Sol in Spain. But they will not say how they circumvent their country's currency restrictions and pay for the properties — regarded as 'insurance' against the collapse of South Africa." The article also notes that property developers have received inquiries from South Africa about ranch-style farms in central and southern Spain.

Shopping To Beat Price Hikes

Frank Jeans reports in the same issue that shoppers are scrambling to beat massive price increases next year by buying " 'big ticket' " items now. It is estimated "that hi-fi equipment will go up by 25 to 35 percent, and television sets and video machines by 40 to 50 percent," while furniture, and large appliances like washing machines and refrigerators are expected to go up by 20 to 30 percent.

Export Applications for Machinery

Colleen Ryan reports that seven exporters have applied for permission to sell their goods overseas since "the Government stepped in to control the outflow of certain heavy equipment and aircraft last month." Applications to export three aircraft and four roadmaking vehicles have been received at the Department of Trade and Industry. Ryan says that "export control on this type of equipment was introduced because of the alarming rate at which it was leaving the country," adding: "It seems the Government is worried that South Africa's balance of payments will take a knock when importers are forced to bring new equipment into the country when the economy recovers."

Military Service Exemption Appeal

The same issue reports that the Board for Religious Objectors has rejected an application for exemption from military service by Harald Winkler, "who has referred to the South African Defence Force as the 'major oppressive arm' of the Government." The board said that it was not convinced Winkler was a "universal pacifist" in terms of the Defense Act.

Report on Strike Action

Sheryl Raine reports on strike action, which hit an all-time high during 1985, particulary in the automobile, mining, metal, chemical, and food industries. While there has been an increase in the incidence of strikes, and "during the last seven years the number of man-days lost due to strike action rose by 700 percent," the South African Institute of Race Relations has predicted that there will be a " 'slackening off' " in strike action, that employers will take a much firmer line and management will be less likely to make the same tactical or legal errors they did in the past. The institute's report also found that "local stayaways and boycotts were likely to be employed more sparingly, but with greater accuracy." The report also found that the existence of the COSATU "would put a strain on existing union leadership as leaders sought to maintain cohesion, and focus among affiliated unions with diverse political and tactical views."

University Rejects Apartheid

Susan Pleming reports that the University of Witwatersrand's new stationery will carry a statement rejecting racism. The statement will read: " 'The University of the Witwatersrand rejects racism and racial segregation. It is committed to non-discrimination in the constitution of its student body, in the selection and promotion of its staff, and in its administration.' " The university also released a two-page statement earlier this week calling for the end of apartheid and security laws and a new constitution.

STAR on University's Statement

In its editorial, *THE STAR* discusses the statement released by the university, which it says is "proof of the difficulties a liberal institution encounters while trying to maintain its standards in an abnormal society." The statement "reaffirms the university's objection to apartheid; commits it to an extensive re-examination of its own policies and practices; calls for the repeal of all separate education facilities based on race." Noting that the university's criticism of apartheid had "sounded relatively muffled" since the declaration of the state of emergency, the editorial welcomes the policy statement which shows that "the spirit of protest is not only kept alive but nurtured at the highest levels of academia."

Survey of Lebowa Residents

John d'Oliveira reports on a survey carried out by Professor Johan Malan, professor of anthropology at the University of the North, of 120 Lebowa secondary school teachers, teacher training college lecturers, and government officials. The survey found that "more than three-quarters (78 percent) approved the politically inspired activities by school children and students which many observers believe is the major component of the present unrest in South Africa." All respondents believed that student action as a form of protest against discrimination could be justified on moral grounds, although some disapproved of violenc The survey also found that 52.2 percent stressed the negativ effects disinvestment would have, while 40.8 percent approv of it as a political strategy. On political trends in South Africa,).8 percent said that they were not convinced that the movem t was in the right direction, while 33.3 percent said they believe t was. Most also rejected the President's Council and tricam l parliament and fewer than 10 percent said they favorec dependence for Lebowa. In a related article, Dr Erich Leistne director of the Africa Institute of South Africa, discusses survey, which he says "contradicted the widely held view th the unrest in South Africa was mainly due to the activiti of agitators." He adds that the survey shows that dissatis ction was widespread and deeply rooted and attributed solely t partheid.

Commentary on COSATU

In his olitical commentary," David Braun discusses the launchi of COSATU. He notes that although this "evidently sent a s dder down many a white spine," the formation of the superfe ration of unions should be welcomed since "in fact, where free enterpirse has flourished, the trade unions are at their strongest and those societies are the most free. Where powerful unions exist societies are the most philanthropic and sensitive to the needs of brother man." Braun adds that big business has welcomed COSATU since it identifies popular black leaders with whom to negotiate "in a ready-made structure" and because it must gain some political and economic power, which "can't be a bad thing in any society, particularly one prone to an autocratic concentration of authority." Braun says he believes that COSATU will eventually become convinced that free enterprise offers the best opportunity to generate wealth and jobs. He concludes by saying: "South Africans may want to think of this and encourage the union to be partners in a truly free society, rather than denigrate, frustrate and suppress what is obviously an irresistible force."

Mamelodi Death Toll

Sefako Nyaka reports in Johannesburg *THE WEEKLY MAIL* for 13-19 December that the death toll from the Mamelodi police shootings has risen from 16 to 19. A 2-month-old baby died from the effects of tear gas and two more bodies were found in the government mortuary. According to Nyaka, one of the bodies, that of Moses Motsei, was found only after his family brought an urgent application before the Pretoria Supreme Court demanding that police produce his body. Police had originally told Motsei's family that they had no record of him and it was only after the court ruled that Motsei's whereabouts could be revealed that the family was shown his body in the mortuary.

Johannesburg Boycott

In another article, Nyaka reports that most Johannesburg retailers were reluctant to admit that the consumer boycott was taking its toll on sales. He goes on to discuss the reports of intimidation and assault of boycott breakers and says the consumer boycott committee "met behind closed doors to counter the 'negative attitude of some criminal element' that believes in the use of force."

Application on Detention Orders

The same issue reports that "twelve Emergency detainees have applied to the Transvaal Supreme Court to set aside their detention orders in a case that — if successful — could affect hundreds of other prisoners." The detainees argue that their detention orders should be set aside because they did not have the right to make legal representations to the minister of law and order when their 14-day detention orders were extended indefinitely. Similar cases have been argued in the Eastern Cape and Cape Town, but they have been defeated.

UDF Treason Trial

Anton Harber discusses the significance of the dropping of the charges against the 12 United Democratic Front (UDF) leaders: "The withdrawal of charges against 12 of the accused was a vindication of the legality of the UDF mode of operating. The State had set out to prove the way the UDF and three of its affiliates operated was part of a revolutionary conspiracy; by failing in this aim, it proved the opposite." Harber goes on to say that there is no evidence the government dropped charges for political reasons in an attempt to relieve foreign pressure and create a climate for negotiation. Instead, the decision seems to have a purely legal one, and the State's case during the trial itself suffered one legal defeat after another. Harber concludes by noting that the UDF 12 were fortunate to come under judicial scrutiny and that the trial reaffirmed the need for state actions to come under the scrutiny of the courts.

Queenstown Violence

Mike Loewe reports on the violence in Queenstown, which resulted in 14 deaths. Loewe says that about 2,000 people had gathered at the Nonzwaki Methodist Church for a report-back meeting on negotiations between the consumer boycott committee and the Queenstown Chamber of Commerce and local government bodies. A person who was at the meeting told Loewe that they had just finished when police arrived in two Casspirs. Police first told the crowd to leave the place and returned a second time with a loudhailer to tell the crowd that they had 5 minutes to disperse. An eyewitness told Loewe that, however, "it was like nine seconds, and then teargas and bullets were being fired at the church."

Transfer of Moutse

Vivienne Walts reports on the proposed incorporation of the Moutse district into the KwaNdebele homeland, which will more than double the homeland's territory. Walt points out that Moutse includes about 50 schools, tarred roads, and what will be the only hospital in KwaNdebele, as well as minerals and notes that the majority of Moutse's population is not Ndebele.

Union Mergers

Phillip van Niekerk discusses problems facing COSATU and notes that a number of important unions are still outside the federation. He reports that this week the ANC "made a plea to the Council of Unions of SA (CUSA) and the Azanian Confederation of Trade Unions (Azactu) to go into COSATU." Van Niekerk then goes on to discuss upcoming union mergers in various industries. He says that the Metal and Allied Workers Union, the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union, and the Motor Industry Combined Workers Union will merge to create a union with more than 100,000 workers. The Food and Canning Workers Union and the Sweet, Food and Allied Workers Union are well on the way to merging, which would give them a membership of 46,000. In transport, Van Niekerk says that the General Workers Union, representing dockworkers, and the Transport and General Workers Union are also close to merging.

Bophuthatswana Police Campaign

Sefako Nyaka reports that "thousands of youths have fled Bophuthatswana in the wake of a massive police campaign to 'rid the homeland of elements who are bent on destabilising it.' " Youths, who were mostly members of the Temba Youth Organization, claim that police assualted them and deprived them of medical attention while they were detained. The youths have been charged with public violence and furthering the aims of a banned organization, in this case the Congress of South African Students. Nyaka adds that "Several students said they have been repeatedly asked to name the 'students from Atteridgeville and other areas who are behind the present unrest.' Their interrogators allegedly forced some of them to admit that the trouble was fanned by outsiders running away from police in South Africa."

Implications of Harare Declaration

Hennie Serfontein discusses the implications of the World Council of Churches' call for immediate sanctions in the Harare Declaration. He says that in South Africa the declaration is bound to "intensify ongoing and escalating church-state conflict" and "cause greater tension and friction between black and white Christians inside the mainstream anti-apartheid multiracial English language churches and between the South African Council of Churches (SACC) and some of its member churches." Serfontein says that there is already "increasing tension" between white and black Christians, "with whites accusing blacks of politicising the church. The Harare decisions are bound to lead to a new black-white confronation which could seriously affect their unity."

16 Dec Press Review

MB160548 [Editorial Report] **Attempt To Control Boycott** — Johannesburg *SUNDAY TIMES* in English on 15 December reports that boycott organizers in Soweto and Pretoria "in a desperate effort to clean up the image of the campaign," have decided to meet with youth representatives next Thursday, distribute pamphlets giving guidelines on what is expected of residents in support of the boycott, make an effort to cut prices in the townships, where price markups of 200 percent have been reported, ensure that delivery vehicles are not prevented from delivering to township stores, and encourage shorter drinking hours at township bars to reduce alcohol consumption. The paper says that "police have threatened to introduce new strong-arm tactics if boycotters continue their consumer stranglehold on white businesses," and reportedly have arrested several boycott organizers. However, the paper adds, some businessmen have argued that "it is better to have a leadership with which to negotiate than leaderless mobs." The paper adds that white businesses in Pretoria have been hardest hit, with some reporting a 50 percent drop in turnover.

Business Letters Urge Reform

Shaun Harris reports in the same issue that two major companies, Murray and Roberts and Tongaat-Hulett, have sent letters to their staff calling on the government "to speed up the reform process and negotiate with leaders on a wider basis." The Tongaat-Hulett letters urge lifting the state of emergency, scrapping detention without trial, abolishing statutory discrimination, giving full citizenship and freedom of movement to all South Africans, and accelerating and extending the process of " 'peaceful reform.' " The Murray and Roberts letter says that unless far-reaching changes are made on a broad scale, there will be no stability, peace, or prosperity in the country.

Call To Overhaul Black Education

Also in the *SUNDAY TIMES*, Sarah Sussens reports on a call by black educator Abner Saule for a major overhaul of black education. Saule said there were two options to consider as solutions to the crisis in black education " 'The first is that we formulate a common nonracial education system for all the citizens of South Africa immediately,' " while a second option "would be to allow the African people to formulate their own educational system."

Students Barred From Bophuthatswana

A report in the paper says that President Lucas Mangope of Bophuthatswana has barred Soweto students from attending school in the homeland. Mangope also said that "any teacher found to have dealings with the United Democratic Front 'will be dealt with accordingly.' "

SUNDAY TIMES on Treason Trial

In an editorial on the dropping of charges against 12 United Democratic Front leaders, the *SUNDAY TIMES* says that the definition of treason is so broad that "the State appears increasingly tempted to advance the most improbable of cases." At best, the state's case against the 12 "was conceived in pique, prosecuted in confusion and concluded in ignominy," while at worst "it was a deliberate ploy to deep-freeze political opposition." The editorial goes on to say that the trial pointed to one of the features of the present crisis: "an apparent congenital inability of the State and its policing agents to distinguish between legal dissidence on the one hand and outright revolutionary activity on the other."

Further on Boycotts

In another editorial, the paper says that "boycott is a legitimate — albeit exceptionally stupid — form of protest," but that while boycotters are free to refuse to buy from white shops, ignoring the consequences of unemployment and price hikes this has, they however, are not free "to impose, through brutal intimidation, their beliefs and their choices on others." This "denial of freedom in the name of liberation is a hideous contradiction in terms," the paper says.

Solutions for Black Education

A column by Michael Ashley, professor of education at the University of Cape Town, offers solutions to the problems in black schools. Ashley says that schools "must be acceptable to the students in respect of their curriculum content and mode of organisation," as has already been done by replacing the prefect system with student representative councils. Ashley says that teachers need to be better qualified and facilities improved. Ashley also urges that blacks be appointed to "key positions" to "ensure closer contact with, and sensitivity to," the community the school serve.

In another column on the situation in black education, Brian Pottinger discusses efforts by the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee (SPCC) and the Department of Education and Training to hold talks. Althought the SPCC and Deputy Education Minister Sam de Beer quickly reached agreement on postponing exams, the situation has worsened since then. The parents and the deputy minister have run up against "the inflexibility of the policeman, who, in pursuit of order, has incidentally succeeded in paralysing black community leadership and helped turn the streets over to the criminals," Pottinger says. Committee members have increasingly become the targets of threats from black radicals while the Department of Education and Training's "commitment to negotiate with even radical groups is not widely endorsed in other Government quarters." Pottinger says that the breakdown of the talks between the SPCC and the deputy minister show that "A strange irony is at work. The more the Government talks of constitutional options and equitable political ends, the further the country moves from an acceptable starting point for negotiations. The reason lies less in what the government wants to talk about than with whom. Thus opposition grass-roots political leaders with legitimacy have been detained and the right of peaceful protest all but smothered."

FCI Head on Negotiations

A column by Johan van Zyl, executive director of the Federated Chamber of Industries [FCI] discusses violence in the townships and notes that when leaders are arrested, a vacuum is created which is filled by more radical and criminal elements, who are given "moral legitimacy for violent action against their own people" by the security forces' violent actions in the townships. In discussing how to stop the violence in the townships, Van Zyl says that one solution may be for the government "to return the power to discipline anarchic elements to the township citizens themselves" and suggests that each township elect a "marshal" who would "enforce law and order." Turning to the ANC, Van Zyl says that it is the group's "ability and willingness to use violence which gives it credibility with South African blacks" and so the ANC cannot renounce violence to enter negotiations as the government has demanded. However, Van Zyl says that the ANC is also worried over the seemingly uncontrollable violence in the townships and "does not want either unbridled terrorism in the townships, or a concerted white backlash, resulting in a siege society." According to Van Zyl, this can be the basis for successful negotiations between the government and the ANC. Concluding with a discussion of foreign pressure and the effects of sanctions on neighboring states, Van Zyl says that what the West and neighboring states really want is "visible progress in dismantling apartheid." He concludes that there are "substantial number of areas for negotiation between the South African Government and political groupings inside and outside the country."

Repossession of Homes

In the "Business Times" supplement, Kerry Clarke reports that "retrenchment and dire financial straits are forcing many homeowners to renege on bond payments and repossessions have shown a substantial increase during the year." However, Clarke adds, building societies are sympathetic to the homeowner's difficulties and will only foreclose if there is no other option.

Police 'Crackdown' on Boycott

Johannesburg *THE SUNDAY STAR* in English on 15 December reports that police "have mounted a crackdown on people believed to have a connection with the campaign to stifle white-owned businesses." The paper adds that "three leading business personalities," Louis Khumalo, president of the Mamelodi Parents Associations, Moe Hlongwane, president of the Mamelodi Chamber of Commerce, and John Tau, a member of the chamber, were detained in Mamelodi while the homes of two members of the Mamelodi boycott committee, Veli Mampuru and Lucas Molekoa, were raided. A sixth boycott leader, Jabu Ngwenya, has disappeared and police have denied that he is being detained. A Progressive Federal Party spokesman, Rowan Harrhoff, said the detentions show that police have not learned " 'the lesson of Port Elizabeth,' " where the boycott only ended once leaders were released from detention. The article also reports that a business group with members from the Afrikaans Trade Institute, the Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce, and the Pretoria Chamber of Commerce, among others, has been trying to arrange an end to the boycott. The paper adds that police were stationed at Mamelodi's two railway stations to protect shoppers. Finally, the article notes that residents of the Tumahole township in the Orange Free State have resumed their boycott.

Tumahole Funeral

The same issue also reports that mourners at a funeral in Tumahole were urged to work for the reprieve of six people sentenced to death for murdering a Sharpeville dputy mayor. The funeral was for Lefu Rasego, a student and youth leader allegedly "hacked and beaten to death by conservative townships vigilantes known as the A-Team," and a 17-year-old mentally handicapped youth who was allegedly shot when he fled during street clashes between townships residents and police.

Admission to Technikon

John Qwelane reports in the same issue that a colored man who seeks admission to the Witwatersrand Technikon and who was originallly told that the 2 percent quota for " 'other races' " was full until 1987 may be admitted next year after the matter was taken up by the mp for his area who brought it to the attention of the Department of Education and Culture in the house of assembly.

Police Deny Helping Shoppers

John Qwelane also reports that police have denied that they are assisting shoppers to and from white business districts although a police statement did say that there is " 'heightened presence of security forces to ensure that law and order is maintained.' " In a related article, David Capel reports that Pretoria township youths are forcing women to strip to ensure that they are not wearing new clothes bought in white-owned stores.

Asylum Seeker in U.S.

Alan Dunn from the *STAR*'s Washington bureau reports that South African citizen Bernard Butler-Smith is seeking asylum in the United States. He claims that the "South African Government had forced him to kill about 30 innocent civilians." Butler-Smith has told U.S. officials that he cannot return to South Africa because he would be "jailed, banned or worse." He says that he cannot recall specifics for his military service "because of the trauma he had undergone," although he does claim to have served in Angola. An SADF spokesman said: " 'The SADF rejects his allegations with contempt. They are ridiculous.' "

Criticism of Ministers

Deon Delport reports that "one of Afrikanerdom's most respected business figures," Dr Andreas Wassenaar, the former chairman of Sanlam, has sharply criticized Finance Minister Barend du Plessis and Trade and Industry Minister Dawie de Villiers. In an article in the Afrikaans business magazine *FINANSIES EN TEGNIEK*, Wassenaar said: " 'The result of the actions by the two ministers who decide about our economic life was a debacle never before experienced,' " especially in the small business sector.

SSC Report on Boesak

Political correspondent John MacLennan reports that an affadavit by Home Affairs Minister Stoffel Botha defending the withrawal of allan boesak's passport revealed that the State Security Council (SSC) had been reporting on Boesak and had concluded that "he is misusing his leadership position to the serious detriment of the country," the SSC charged that Boesak " 'made common cause with the ANC' " during a visit to Maputo and called on people " 'to pray for the downfall of the (SA) Government.' "

Column Discusses Boycott

In his "Just Jon" column, in the *SUNDAY STAR*, Jon Qwelane discusses the measures taken against people breaking the boycott and concludes: "As Bishop Desmond Tutu says, we must not defile our struggle by employing the methods used by the system. Otherwise we run the risk of alienating support for out struggle against injustice — and at the same time subjecting others to the very things we want to rid ourselves of."

Business Support for Natal-KwaZulu

Mike Peirso reports that "organised commerce and industry in Natal have come out strongly in support of the agreement reached between the Executive Committee and the KwaZulu Cabinet on proposals which will lead initially to joint administration of certain services." The Joint Private Sector Committee, which comprises representatives of the Durban Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, the Durban Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce, the Natal Chamber of Industries, and the South African Sugar Association, issued a statement saying this was the first step in developing "a joint decision-making (and ultimately powersharing) structure for Natal/KwaZulu" and would be "a source of inspiration to others who sought to initiate a programme of reform in their own geographical areas." The statement also said that it was " 'essential' " that all race groups be brought together " 'in the evolving constitutional process in KwaZulu to ensure participation across a wide spevtrum and so lend maximum credibility to the important initiatives which have now been started.' "

Johannesburg Centenary Celebrations

In a feature on the Johannesburg centennial, Jon Qwelane reports that "last-minute efforts to woo black support" for the celebrations have failed. A meeting between business leaders and the Johannesburg Centenary Festival Association [JCFA] on the one hand and Bishop Tutu on the other failed to reach agreement. Bishop Tutu said: " 'We would take part in the celebrations if the redistribution of wealth and the land question were resolved. Otherwise we are firmly opposed to celebrating the centenary because it holds nothing for us.'" Qwelane also report that the Community Support Committee was created recently by representatives of various township organizations "with a mandate to mobilise the black community against taking part in the celebrations." The Congress of South African Trade Unions, the Transvaal Indian Congress, the Azanian People's Organization, and the South African Council on Sport all intend to boycott the celebrations. Directors of the JCFA say, however, that the JCFA has undertaken significant projects costing millions of rands which will benefit blacks. Among the projects are a community center for Diepkloof, a workshop for the blind, a Soweto senior citizens home, a Soweto reference library, and day care centers.

SUNDAY STAR on Reform

In an editorial, the paper says that President P.W. Botha's "commitment to reform, if grudging, has remained consistent and the message of continuing reform that has come from his government has continued to be strident, both in public and in private." In the new parliamentary session the government must accept two principles, the editorial says: It must "resist the inclination to comouflage its efforts with shows of bravado and sabre-rattling," and it must understand that "all reform efforts are directed at finding a solution for the fundamental issue of one-man-one-vote."

SUNDAY STAR on Boycotts

In an editorial on the consumer boycotts, *THE SUNDAY STAR* says that the boycotts are revealing a "politics of barbarism." "Criminal anarchy committed in the guise of activism" can never be justified and the point of the boycott is being lost in the stories of "buses, robberies and killings carried out in the name of the campaign by gangs of aimless, directionless youngsters." Nevertheless, the editorial goes on to say, the boycott is beginning to exert economic pressure and has shown that some blacks are willing to make sacrifices to support the boycott. It concludes by saying: "All who deplore boycotts and enjoy white privilege has a duty to promote urgent alternatives to the abhorrent and unjust system that still divides our society."

SUNDAY STAR on Sanctions

A third editorial on sanctions says that "an open schism is developing inside the country between those who believed that sanctions are the only way to get real reform and those who argue that a damaged economy inhibits political change." The paper says that it is ironic that among the most vocal advocates of sanctions are those who will probably be worst hurt by them — poor and middle-class blacks. *THE SUNDAY STAR* goes on to say that it has always believed that sanctions would do more harm than good, but "the threat of economic reprisals has been remarkably effective in galavanising business into calling more loudly for change, and the Government into considering it." Still, the editorial concludes, "quick real reform" is better than "interminable sanctions designed to achieve the same objective more painfully."

Article Views UDF

In an article in *THE SUNDAY STAR* "Review" section, Gary van Staden says the United Democratic Front (UDF) is "alive, well and apparently as determined to continue its fight against apartheid." The release of 12 leading members after charges of treason were dropped gave the UDF a much-needed shot in the arm.

The message is clear, the article says. "The UDF is back, even though many of its leaders are still in jail. Those who are not, are willing to put their freedom on the line once again to lead their people — people who, judging by their reaction, are only too willing to follow."

Noting that those who have been freed do not discount the possibility of again being detained under the state of emergency regulations or any other "host of security laws," they are "convinced it would make no difference," the article says.

Comment on Liberation Movements

In a commentary entitled "Africa View," Gerald L'ange says that one of the major lessons to be learned from independent Africa's birth and growing pains is that once a self-determination dispute deteriorates to the point where a "liberation movement" is formed, the "chances of a democratic solution being found become progressively more remote."

Liberation movements tend to become stamped by the United Nations as the "sole legitimate representatives of the people of the country in which they sought power, regardless of whether the people concerned were divided on the issue."

With the decline of the Pan Africanist Congress, L'ange says, the General Assembly is "quite capable of arbitrarily tagging the ANC as the 'only authentic' representative of the racially, culturally and politically diverse inhabitants of South Africa." Once this tag is affixed, he says, it is very difficult for anybody to remove it. Liberation movements are invariably spawned by "the reigning authorities' own rejection of consolation and compromise."

Liberation struggles in Africa's former European colonies were essentially about political power but they were also about dignity, L'ange says, "an element vastly undervalued and much overlooked by white dominators, including patronising and paternalistic reformists."

The longer people are denied dignity and opportunity, the more "disruptive and painful is the taking of them in the end," a lesson ignored by South Africa's rulers. In South Africa, he says, the "alternative to consolation and compromise will almost certainly be something worse in the long run."

ZAMBIA

Letter Bomb Explosion in Lusaka Injures ANC Member

MB132013 Umtata Capital Radio in English 2000 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] The ANC is blaming South Africa for a parcel bomb explosion in the Zambian capital of Lusaka today.

The bomb reportedly went off at the city's main post office in the arms of an ANC worker who was collecting mail for the organization.

His left arm was blown off, and he has lost most of the fingers of his right hand.

An ANC spokesman says it can only be the work of South Africa. No one else has been reported injured in the blast, which shattered windows of the building in Lusaka's main shopping center.

ZIMBABWE

Harare Reiterates Mugabe Denial of ANC Bases

MB161255 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] There has been a fatal landmine explosion in South Africa. Six whites were killed and five others were seriously injured last night when their truck hit a mine in Messina near the border with Zimbabwe. Among the deceased were four women and two men, all members of two families. A South African Army spokesman claims the landmine was among a series planted in the area by freedom fighters 3 weeks ago. The Pretoria regime said then that the ANC was responsible and threatened to invade Zimbabwe for harboring the guerrillas. However, over the past 5 years the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has stated time and again that Zimbabwe does not have ANC bases. Comrade Mugabe has stressed that Zimbabwe will continue to support South African liberation movements through progressive organizations such as the OAU.